Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-88-201
Tuesday
18 October 1988

Daily Report
Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-88-201 *18 October 1988*

CONTENTS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Arbatov Proposes New 'Model' for Talks *[PRAVDA 17 Oct]* 1
Solton on U.S. Continuation of SDI 4

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

Gerasimov Holds Foreign Ministry Briefing 17 Oct 5
Notes UN Chief's Message to Gorbachev 5
Comments on Status of Berlin 5
Cites FRG Maneuvers 'Violation' 5
Discusses Afghan Situation 6
Reports Protest Made to Pakistan 6
Notes Aid to Afghanistan 7
Previews Human Rights Meeting 7
Notes Soviet-Italian Credit Agreement 8
UN Begins Discussion of Peacekeeping Operations 8
Petrovskiy on Peacekeeping Forces 8
Response Made to UN on International Security 9
Katushev Meets With Cuban, Hungarian Officials *[IZVESTIYA 14 Oct]* 9

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

U.S. Plans 'Nuclear War' Maneuvers in Pacific *[Solton]* 10
TASS Notes Exercises 10
Solton Comments on Bush-Dukakis Campaign 10
Poll Gives Bush Television Debate 'Victory' *[PRAVDA 15 Oct]* 11
Poll Shows 'Clear Trend' Toward Bush Victory *[IZVESTIYA 14 Oct]* 11
Bush Role in Iran-Contra Operation Reviewed 12

China

Soviet Science Exhibition for Beijing Previewed *[SELSKAYA ZHIZN 13 Oct]* 12
IZVESTIYA on Exhibition *[14 Oct]* 13
PRC Premier's Call for Construction Cutback Noted *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 14 Oct]* 13

Northeast Asia

CPSU Greets Japan Communist Party Chairman *[PRAVDA 17 Oct]* 14
Rogachev Meets Japanese Socialist Delegation *[IZVESTIYA 14 Oct]* 14
CPSU's Yakovlev Meets With Mongolia's Batmonh *[PRAVDA 16 Oct]* 14

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Vietnamese Party Delegation Visits 5-14 Oct *[PRAVDA 15 Oct]* 15
Soviet-Vietnamese Cultural Protocol Signed *[PRAVDA 15 Oct]* 15
Vietnam-Cambodia Communique on Withdrawal Noted *[PRAVDA 17 Oct]* 15
Sihanouk Cited on Khmer Rouge Role in Government *[IZVESTIYA 14 Oct]* 15
Kamentsev Receives Australian Businessmen *[PRAVDA 16 Oct]* 15

Near East & South Asia

More on Soviet Visitors in Aden for Celebrations 15
YSP Official Welcomes Group *[PRAVDA 14 Oct]* 15
TV Cast on 'Revolution Day' 16
Al-Bid Interview on YSP *[PRAVDA 14 Oct]* 16
Al-Bid Ceremonial Speech *[PRAVDA 15 Oct]* 16
'Scores' of Foreigners Celebrate 17
Talyzin Meets Al-Bid *[PRAVDA 16 Oct]* 17
Talyzin Meets Soviet Workers 18
Talyzin Visit Ends *[PRAVDA 17 Oct]* 18
Lushev Delegation Departs Aden 18
Lushev Arrives in YAR 18
YAR Deputy Prime Minister, Peace Group in Moscow 18
Presents Message for Gorbachev 18
Interviewed Before Leaving Moscow 19
Petrovskiy Interview on Soviet Mideast Policies *[Kuwait AL-QABAS 14 Oct]* 19
Palestinian Group Visits Moscow 11-17 Oct 22
Leader Hawatimah's News Conference 23
More on PLO's 'Abbas Moscow News Conference *[IZVESTIYA 14 Oct]* 23
On Convening of PNC Session 24
Activities in 'Suffering' Afghanistan Reported 24
Two U.S. 'Instructors' Killed 24
U.S., Pakistan Issue 'Misinformation' 25
Rebels Not Achieving 'Objectives' *[MOSCOW NEWS No 40]* 25
Extremists Continue Shelling 26
Japanese Instruction of Rebels *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 26
Pakistani Air Violation Protested 27
Pakistan Blocks Talks on POW's 27
Komplektov Receives Aid Documents 27
Pakistani Spokesman on 'Sabotage' in Plane Crash 28
Election Campaign Gears Up in Pakistan *[PRAVDA 8 Oct]* 28
Pakistani Journalist on Elections *[IZVESTIYA 11 Oct]* 29
'Normalization' Process Begins in Algeria 30
President Chadli's Moves *[IZVESTIYA 15 Oct]* 30
Dialogue Seeks To End Unrest *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 31
Commentator Views Situation *[Zlatorunskiy]* 31

Sub-Saharan Africa

TASS Analyst on Soviet Policy Toward South Africa *[Kulik]* 32
Kulik Notes Improvements in Africa Situation 33
Petrovskiy Meets With Ethiopian Delegate at UN 34
Construction Agreement Signed With Angola 34

East Europe

LCY Central Committee Presidium Opens 17 Oct 34
New Polish Government Convenes 17 Oct 35
Rakowski Urges Solving Crisis 35
More on Rakowski Policy Statement *[PRAVDA 14 Oct]* 35
Reforms Approved; Session Ends 35
Jaruzelski Receives U.S.' Whitehead 35
PZPR's Orzechowski Sees Medvedev in USSR *[PRAVDA 17 Oct]* 36
Observers View Hungarian Military Exercise 36

West Europe

Further on Visit by Italian Premier De Mita 36
De Mita Honors War Dead *[IZVESTIYA 15 Oct]* 36
De Mita Assesses Moscow Talks 36

Gorbachev, De Mita at Bolshoy 37
De Mita Interviewed 37
Ryzhkov, De Mita at Exhibition *[PRAVDA 16 Oct]* 37
Ryzhkov Meets Businessmen *[PRAVDA 15 Oct]* 40
De Mita Departs for Leningrad 41
De Mita Visits Leningrad, Pushkin 41
De Mita Meets With Journalists 42
De Mita Departs for Home 43
Yakovlev Terms Italian Accords 'Excellent' *[Rome]* 43
Analysis of De Mita Visit Inspires 'Optimism' 44
Kohl, Genscher Comment on Upcoming Visit *[IZVESTIYA 14 Oct]* 44
More on Kohl Comments *[TRUD 15 Oct]* 45
West German Spokesman Cited 47
Austria Signs Spaceflight Agreement for 1991-2 47
Fire Breaks Out on Ocean Liner in Mediterranean 47

Latin America & Caribbean

Brazilian President Sarney Pays Official Visit 47
Sarney Previews Visit *[PRAVDA 14 Oct]* 47
Sarney Arrives in Moscow *[PRAVDA 18 Oct]* 48
Gorbachev, Sarney Tour Kremlin *[PRAVDA 18 Oct]* 48
Television Protocol Signed With Brazil 49
'Destabilizing Factors' in Haiti Noted *[IZVESTIYA 15 Oct]* 49

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

Gorbachev Chairs Political Reform Session *[PRAVDA 18 Oct]* 50
Gerasimov: Ligachev No Longer Gorbachev's No 2 *[London DAILY TELEGRAPH 18 Oct]* 50
'Sources': Falin Heading International Department *[Tokyo KYODO]* 51
Zaykov Addresses Moscow Propaganda Workers *[PRAVDA 16 Oct]* 51
Further on Nagorno-Karabakh Ethnic Unrest 52
Official Candidate Not Elected *[AFP]* 52
Commission Continues Work 52
Yerevan City Official Cited 53
Further Press Reportage on Ukrainian Plenum *[Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY 11 Oct]* 53
Personnel Changes Noted *[Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY 12 Oct]* 54
Grintsov Profiled *[Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY 12 Oct]* 54
Ukraine Auditing Commission Holds Session *[Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY 12 Oct]* 55
Expanded Language Use in Ukraine Described 55
Model for Latvian 'Sovereignty' Drafted *[Riga SOVETSKAYA MOLODEZH 7 Sep]* 55
Paper Corrects Report on Latvian Language Use
[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 14 Oct] 60
Shaumyan's Views on Nationalities Recalled *[PRAVDA 13 Oct]* 60
Moscow Radio Criticized, 'At Odds With Glasnost' *[SOVETSKAYA KULTURA 7 Oct]* 61
TV Program Features Human Rights Discussion 63
Foreign Language Radio Open for Advertising 65
Health Minister's Pre-Congress Remarks Noted 65
Role of 'Non-Official Groups' Considered *[MOSCOW NEWS 2 Oct]* 66
Public Rally Debates Restructuring Issues *[TRUD 27 Aug]* 68
PRAVDA Reports on Crime Conference *[15 Oct]* 71
Khorezm Kolkhoz Tackles Unemployment Problem *[PRAVDA 13 Oct]* 71
Krasnodar Kraykom Plenum Views Political Work *[PRAVDA 8 Oct]* 72
IZVESTIYA Reports Yakutiya Plane Crash *[14 Oct]* 74
Crew Faulted in Siberian Passenger Plane Crash 74

Economic

Bases for Economic Comparisons Questioned *[IZVESTIYA 13 Oct]* 74

Statistics Reveal Nonfulfillment of Contracts 77
Percentages of Substandard Goods Reported *[TRUD 7 Oct]* 77
Georgian Pig Iron Foundry Files for Bankruptcy 78
Far East Enterprise Zone Plans Described 78
Batalin Attends Construction Industry Conference *[IZVESTIYA 15 Oct]* 79
Nuclear Icebreakers Work in Arctic Waters *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 14 Oct]* 79
New Highway Opened Across Caucasus Mountains 79

Agricultural

Efficiency, Usefulness of Leasing Stressed *[Galkin]* 79
Early October Weather, Crop Progress Reported *[SELSKAYA ZHIZN 14 Oct]* 80
Agricultural Developments for 11-16 Oct 80

Military

'Studio 9' Airs Discussion on Military Doctrine 82
Yazov Interviewed by Bulgarian Army Daily *[Sofia BTA]* 89
Yazov Visits Endangered Georgian Monastery *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 13 Oct]* 90
'Secret' Defense Ministry Journal Now on Sale 90
Tanker Radio Operator Awarded Order of Red Star *[IZVESTIYA 12 Oct]* 90

Arbatov Proposes New 'Model' for Talks

PM1710120088 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
17 Oct 88 Second Edition p 6

[Article by Academician G. Arbatov under the rubric "Discussion Platform": "Glasnost, Talks, and Disarmament"]

[Text] Whereas in our domestic affairs glasnost developed simultaneously with restructuring, and sometimes even ahead of it, in foreign policy matters were more complex. There were a number of reasons for this: first and foremost the restricted nature of information. Of course, in domestic policy too information has been mercilessly concealed in the past. But the changes were more rapid there than in foreign policy affairs, and especially military affairs.

To some extent this is natural and even justified—these affairs have their own specific character making it impossible to open up everything to general inspection or to ensure total "transparency." This is because in the international arena we have to deal not only with friends, but also with foes, with whom a real struggle is in progress, a struggle whose rules do not allow all one's cards to be put on the table. And also because many foreign policy affairs affected and continue to affect the interests of third countries, requiring tact in their public discussion (and sometimes temporary abstention from such discussion). But a part was also played in some areas (at times in many areas) by habit, the force of inertia, and even departmental self-interest.

Nonetheless the main natural laws of our time began to prevail—glasnost began to embrace and develop in the foreign policy and military spheres too, and not only in the form of initially timid articles by journalists and formulations by scientists. What was more important was, so to speak, "criticism through action"—criticism of the mistakes made in the past through the revision of former negotiating positions, as well as bold practical actions in policy. In parallel, there began a creative discussion, in the spirit of the new political thinking, of major foreign policy problems in official speeches, as well as the principled formulation, at the 19th party conference, of the question of the shortcomings and mistakes that existed in this sphere.

Arising from this formulation of the question, a scientific and practical conference was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry in July in which our military leaders, scientists, and journalists took part along with diplomats. I think this conference was an unprecedented event in the development of glasnost in foreign policy. It will be an important milestone in the awakening of foreign policy thought and the development of debates on important foreign policy issues. One would like to hope that a similar event will take place at the Defense Ministry.

This conference reminded us all that in the spheres of foreign and military policy, too, the traditions, procedures, and customs that became established in the early thirties can in no way be regarded as normal for socialism.

We somehow forgot for a long time, and only remembered when restructuring began and glasnost entered our lives, that the October revolution also meant a fundamental change as regards public access to those formerly closed spheres of life. Socialism gave rise to a new, open diplomacy, officially replacing secret diplomacy with its very first foreign policy acts and pledging to conduct its foreign policy openly, before the eyes of its own people and others. This was no mere slogan—Lenin and his associates took this problem very seriously, proceeding from the assumption that socialism gains strength from the masses' consciousness, from the fact that the masses know everything, can form opinions about everything, and do everything consciously. Therefore they believed and, it soon became clear, believed quite rightly that open diplomacy would help socialism stand firm, conquer, and secure a worthy place in international relations.

Of course, open diplomacy did not exclude confidential talks or secrecy in the course of preparing negotiating positions or carrying out diplomatic soundings. But foreign policy in general, and even the debates preceding any given major political act, were open to the broadest public. In this respect the young Soviet republic was truly a unique state, strikingly different from all other states.

Remember the fierce debates that took place in full view of everyone about the Brest peace, the struggle against the supporters of the concept of "revolutionary war," the debates about the lessons of the war with Poland and the preparations for the Genoa conference, the public disputes of the twenties about military doctrine and the main avenues of military building? Not to mention the information about the numerical strength and composition of the Armed Forces that was published under Lenin and, perhaps through inertia, for some time after his death.

All this existed for a long time and was perceived by the party and country as a normal phenomenon. Far from harming our foreign policy, it probably did much to help increase its effectiveness; far from undermining the defense capability of the Land of the Soviets, it strengthened it, although the country was at that time very weak militarily in comparison with its enemies. This foreign policy behavior strengthened the political positions of the world's first socialist state, prevented it from diverting its limited resources excessively toward military needs, and helped to prevent major errors in diplomacy and in military matters.

These chapters in the history of our foreign and military policy should be restored to us today, if only so that we know what was regarded as possible and normal in this area during the Leninist times of socialist building, and what has entered our lives "at the Devil's prompting," so to speak.

The burdensome, essentially antisocialist traditions based on the absence of glasnost that were forcibly imposed in the years of Stalinism, when it comes to foreign policy, were for some reason virtually unaffected by the 20th congress. And in the period of stagnation—although in foreign policy not all the years assigned to this period were entirely stagnant (detente, the first talks and the first agreements on strategic arms limitation arrived in the early seventies)—these traditions of ultrasecrecy, or rather deeply meaningful silence, became fossilized. Fossilized in all spheres, but particularly on questions of defense and foreign policy. Whole generations of people grew up who never considered and sometimes had no inkling of the damage that this practice does to socialism and to the country's interests.

The absence of glasnost in the foreign policy and military spheres is a legacy we are renouncing. In this respect the scientific and practical conference at the USSR Foreign Ministry can be seen as an invitation to a serious discussion—in the press too—of urgent problems. One of these I would like to discuss in more detail.

In his speech at the conference, Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze also spoke of the need to further develop the theory and practice of the very institution of diplomatic talks. In this connection the minister mentioned studies underway at the USSR Academy of Sciences United States of America and Canada Institute. In this context I would like to set forth, by way of debating points, a number of considerations reflecting both certain conclusions from these studies and my own personal opinion, first and foremost on the subject of arms limitation and disarmament talks.

For some time now many people have been voicing dissatisfaction with the progress and procedure for conducting these talks. There is criticism of the fruitlessness of many talks, their long, drawn-out nature, and the paucity of results, as well as the fact that they by no means always help to stop or at the least curb the arms race, sometimes merely creating the illusion that something is being done and thus placating the public and parliaments.

There are undoubtedly grounds for this criticism. Of course, this state of affairs is engendered first and foremost by the actual policy and intentions of the sides (or at least one of the sides) conducting the talks. But as time goes on, there is a growing impression that the actual "model" of talks is also in some ways incorrect, in some ways inappropriate to the difficult tasks set.

This model (with some modifications, of course) is borrowed from trade, from the sphere of commerce. The outline is simple here: First one makes the highest possible demand, sets the highest possible price, and then bargains stubbornly. In the course of this bargaining the sides take some steps to meet one another and to make mutual concessions. Finally it all ends with an agreement.

This model, which has stood the test of time, is doubtless not without logic. Moreover it reflects some of the general laws of human and political behavior: Everyone wants the maximum, but since both in life and in politics one has to be satisfied with the possible, after trying to get everything, one then moderates his appetite and agrees to a "reasonable sufficiency."

But the experience of the seventies and the eighties, it seems to me, gives rise to doubts as to the expediency of this model, especially in relation to arms control and disarmament talks.

Why?

First, because this model, by its very nature, presupposes prolonged bargaining and, inevitably, much wasted time. This condemns the diplomatic process to a very slow, snail's pace on disarmament issues. But meanwhile military hardware and military science are developing at an increasing pace. As a result we are doomed to discuss not so much today's and tomorrow's problems, as the problems of yesterday.

Second, the "goods" at talks on arms limitation and disarmament are not cloth, or grain, or machines, but security, truly important national interests. It is quite natural that in making its initial proposals each side tries to prove to the other that what it has proposed is absolutely just and necessary to safeguard its vital interests (otherwise no one will take one's position seriously at all). When this has been repeated many times over, and not only by the negotiators but also by political leaders in public speeches, it becomes politically very difficult to deviate from one's first, initially stated positions.

This is especially so since negotiating positions are, as a rule, worked out through an internal struggle and represent a compromise between different internal interests and departments, and there are always parties that actually have an interest in thwarting an accord on a particular issue and sometimes even in wrecking the very possibility of agreement (an example is the military-industrial complex, which has recently considerably strengthened its positions in the United States). Because of these concessions and deviations from the initial position, it becomes easier for these parties to compromise the accord in the eyes of public opinion or parliament, which will later have to ratify the treaty. In other words, the present model of talks actually has programmed into it serious political difficulties in the drafting and ratification of agreements, because the proposed concessions can be interpreted by any demagogue as a "betrayal" of national interests.

Third, because of the length and complexity of the talks, the very institution of talks of this kind inevitably becomes bureaucratized. Every negotiating table becomes a kind of independent department with its roots deep in the bureaucratic structures of other departments.

Sooner or later it develops a tendency to become totally divorced from its initial purpose, and begins to operate for its own sake, in accordance with the well known Parkinson's laws.

Everyone who has carefully watched the progress of disarmament talks for nearly 20 years has seen various manifestations of these negative aspects of the existing model.

What can be proposed instead? I believe that experience is already suggesting a more suitable model.

A model whereby, after a more or less prolonged period of consultations at the level of experts and senior officials of the foreign ministries and other departments, first of all an **accord in principle** would be reached on a given issue or group of issues **at the highest level or a very high level** (that is, at the level of foreign ministers). This is justified in view of the enormous political and defense significance of the problems tackled at disarmament talks.

At this high level, detailed directives could be issued accordingly to those whose task is to translate the accord into the language of legally formulated agreements, and, moreover, in a very short space of time. After drawing up such an agreement, the negotiators would disperse and the talks would close until they received directives on any new problems. That is very important. In the absence of an accord in principle at the highest levels, talks should not take place at all. When that accord has been reached, they should begin again and continue until the drafting of the next concrete agreement. And so forth.

In general, this method has already been tested to some extent. The first attempts were made during the talks on the SALT I and SALT II agreements, though not always consistently. The Soviet Union raised this matter far more resolutely at the Soviet-American meeting in Reykjavik. Unfortunately, because of the American side's position an accord was not then reached. But this new approach proved entirely successful during the drafting of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

Another important aspect of this problem concerns "glasnost" in disarmament talks. The Americans, by virtue of a certain political calculation, and we, by virtue of long habit, have made disarmament talks confidential. For some aspects of them, this is perhaps logical and will remain so. But not for every aspect. The experience of the seventies and eighties offers plenty of food for serious thought in this respect.

First, the American side has by no means always observed the "gentleman's" agreement on confidentiality. On the contrary, by means of carefully organized "leaks" it has frequently misinformed the public and presented a picture of the talks and the sides' positions in a distorted light to suit itself.

Second, it has happened that disarmament talks conducted under cover of confidentiality have turned into their opposite. This happened, for instance, with the talks on reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

The question remains: Was it worth playing along with the Americans for such a long time (the talks began in 1973) in order later to share with them the dubious glory of being participants in fruitless 15-year talks? But we played along with them—if only by virtue of the fact that we played this game according to the rules imposed by the Americans. That is the kind of situation that must be avoided.

Third, and last, even at disarmament talks, in distinguishing between the confidential and the nonconfidential, it is clearly important to take into account the fact that we have entered an area of glasnost, and that glasnost must be extended not only to domestic affairs, but also to foreign affairs, including military matters and disarmament. Why has what we tell the American negotiators been kept secret, as a rule, even from the experts who are charged with explaining and defending the Soviet position? Why do delegations of the U.S. Congress regularly attend talks, but not delegations of the USSR Supreme Soviet? Why, lastly, does the Supreme Soviet Foreign Affairs Commission "become involved" in the problem for the first time when the time comes for ratification of the treaty, but has no opportunity even to express its opinion on the progress of the talks or on many other important political issues? Would it perhaps be useful for the Supreme Soviet also to set up a commission on defense questions?

It is certainly time we tackled these and other, similar questions within the framework of the planned political reform, democratization, and the expansion of glasnost.

These considerations, it seems to me, are also relevant to the talks on conventional arms and armed forces in Europe which we are seeking to begin. Indeed, these talks certainly cannot be conducted according to the old model. First and foremost because the subject of the talks will itself be incomparably more complex. The discussion will deal with all kinds of armaments and armed forces, which will have to be compared according to some scale of comparison that must be found. Moreover, geopolitical, geostrategic, and other factors will have to be taken into account here to an even greater degree than in the talks hitherto conducted. And last, but not least—the talks will be conducted not between two countries, but with the participation of more than 20 countries.

Some of the problems arising from this are obvious even now. For instance, the fact that the agreement cannot be a single, all-embracing agreement on the model of the agreement on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles or the SALT I and SALT II agreements. It is more likely to be a question of some kind of collection of agreements following in a certain order and, in addition to resolving some specific problem, advancing the whole front of the

talks. Indeed, the Soviet proposals outline in general terms just such an approach and even formulate certain components and stages of agreement. Other issues still await study and debate.

In international relations and foreign policy, and even more in military and disarmament affairs, many questions urgently require analysis and debate. This means realistic analysis and debate based on the principles of the new thinking. The "model" for disarmament talks is only one of these issues, probably not even the most important. Ultimately it is naive to expect that through these talks, which are conceived by the West not as a means of ending the arms race, but as some kind of instrument for "controlling" it, we will reach a nuclear-free, nonviolent world. That can come only from a radically different national military and foreign policy on the part of a sufficient number of influential countries, purposeful efforts on their part, an all-around strengthening of the United Nations, and other major changes. Talks will, of course, be an important part of the process even then, consolidating and giving treaty form to a consensus reached in the course of progress.

But this, too, merits discussion. Along with many other problems, of course.

Solton on U.S. Continuation of SDI

LD1410103788 Moscow World Service in English 1810 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] Will space be the scene of peaceful cooperation or military confrontation? This is a very pressing issue. So far there are no weapons in space but the danger of their appearing there is very big, and that is connected first of all with the work conducted under the American Star Wars program, which is officially called the Strategic Defense Initiative in the United States. Here is what Radio Moscow commentator Yuriy Solton writes.

In the period since the Strategic Defense Initiative was proclaimed in March of 1983, the program directors had to give up many of the original schemes. Nobody in the United States now speaks about building a space shield which would reliably protect the Americans from a nuclear attack. The Pentagon today believes that it would be well to at least have additional protection for the command post and the silos of the strategic nuclear missiles, and those are offensive weapons. It also proved to be impossible to carry out technologically many projects of producing so-called exotic types of arms.

U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci announced on Wednesday there will be mainly land-based anti-missiles in the first echelon of the Strategic Defense Initiative, the building of which will cost the Americans $69 billion. But that doesn't at all mean that the United States has given up the intention to put weapons into space. It is only planned to reduce the number of space missile interceptors at the first stage. The chief of the Pentagon has no doubts whatsoever that the weapons will eventually appear in space. Preparations in that respect are going on; it has been announced that the Pentagon intends to set up early next year an organization to coordinate activities connected with experiments in space. It is planned, among other things, to test space antimissiles and a chemical laser on board an orbital platform.

So the United States is taking another step on the way of violating the Soviet-American ABM Treaty which bans deployment of such a defense system within a country and testing its elements in space. Perhaps this is the reason why there is no progress at the Geneva talks on reducing by half the strategic offensive weapons of the Soviet Union and the United States. The American delegation stubbornly refuses to undertake a commitment on not overstepping the ABM Treaty during a certain period of time.

I'd like to point out, writes Yuriy Solton, militarily the Soviet Union has no fear of the Strategic Defense Initiative. If necessary reliable, effective and asymmetric means will be created to offset it. But military rivalry in space would undermine the process of practical disarmament which has started with the elimination of Soviet and American medium- and shorter-range missiles, and the risk of a nuclear war would again increase.

In conclusion, Yuriy Solton writes, it would be well for those who will replace the Reagan administration in November to give it a thought.

Gerasimov Holds Foreign Ministry Briefing 17 Oct

Notes UN Chief's Message to Gorbachev

LD1710133788 Moscow TASS in English 1254 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—"Mikhail Gorbachev has received a reply from U.N. Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar to his message of greetings on the occasion of awarding the Nobel Peace Prize to the U.N. Peace-Keeping Forces," Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, told Soviet and foreign journalists at a news briefing today.

In the reply message, the Soviet spokesman said, the U.N. secretary-general noted that the prize served as a reminder that striving for peace was the cause of entire humankind. Perez de Cuellar expressed gratitude for the assurances that the Soviet Union would continue strengthening the U.N. peace-making potential and enhancing its practical contribution to the cause of maintaining comprehensive peace and security.

The message said that today when new hopes arose with regard to the future of the United Nations, support for its activity by all member states of the organisation was called upon to play a great role.

Comments on Status of Berlin

LD1710134288 Moscow TASS in English 1339 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—Various conjectures appear in the Western press of late in connection with the Soviet reply, which was given on September 15 to the memorandum, dated December 29, 1987, of the United States, Britain and France, about West Berlin, Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists here today.

It is asserted, for example, that the Soviet side's reply was of non-constructive nature and that the new thinking on the whole did not affect so far the Soviet Union's policy in West Berlin affairs. Regrettably, U.S. officials, too, joined the campaign lately.

The state of affairs, the USSR Foreign Ministry's spokesman went on to say, is as follows: The three countries' memorandum is none other than a repetition of old positions. It follows from this document that there are neither Berlin, the capital of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), nor West Berlin with its special occupation status, but that there is a certain "Berlin" which is still ostensibly under the four-power administration. Proceeding from these irrational premises, the three powers develop their "new initiatives" which come to a proposal to discuss matters concerning "people-to-people contacts inside Berlin" and to hold various international meetings and sports activities in the "western and eastern parts of the city". The question has also been raised about "expansion of air services to the western sectors of Berlin", which, as is known, can be done only in the air space of the GDR. In other words, Western powers are inviting us, in disregard for the legitimate rights and interests of the GDR, to discuss matters which belong exclusively to the GDR's prerogatives. Attempts at casting aspersions upon the stand of the Soviet Union appear the most untenable as, despite the obviously destructive character of the three powers' address, the Soviet side, upon consultations with the GDR's Government, agreed to holding consultations between the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain and France on matters which directly concern West Berlin and, first of all, from the viewpoint of how the four-power agreement of September 3, 1971, operates there, the head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

Such a constructive approach by the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic reflects their principled line in West Berlin affairs aimed at fuller utilisation of the possibilities inherent in the four-power agreement. The implementation of the line has already been marked by tangible positive results for West Berlin. The introduction of numerous measures to facilitate cross-border travels between the GDR and West Berlin, compromise solutions in applying to the city a whole number of agreements with the FRG, active participation of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in the cultural life of the city, and the development of trade-and-economic and other contacts with it—all are examples from the every-day practice of socialist countries, the practice which, I think, gives much more to the residents of the city than high-sounding speeches, Gennadiy Gerasimov said.

Cites FRG Maneuvers 'Violation'

LD1710143088 Moscow TASS in English 1411 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—The Federal Republic of West Germany has conducted a large-scale military exercise on its territory without issuing a preliminary notification, which violates the final document of the Stockholm Conference on Security- and Confidence-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman stated here today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the ministry's Information Directorate, speaking at a briefing, referred to the results of the Soviet Union's inspection of military activity on West German territory on October 7-9.

The report on the results of the inspection indicated that West Germany breached the regulations of the Stockholm document.

Speaking of the United States' reaction to the report, Gerasimov drew the journalists' attention to the statement by the American delegation to the Vienna meeting.

The delegation described the Soviet Union's accusations of Stockholm document violations levelled against the United States and West Germany as an apparent mistake.

A U.S. official explained in detail in what way and when the American side had issued a notification on the holding of the large-scale exercise code-named Certain Challenge on West German territory.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman stated that the report on the results of Soviet inspection in West Germany mentioned violations of the Stockholm document made by the Federal Republic of Germany, not by the United States.

"The United States had indeed sent an announcement and a notification on holding the Certain Challenge exercise in the order stipulated by the Stockholm conference document.

"The Federal Republic of Germany, on whose territory the exercise was conducted, had not done so," he pointed out.

Gerasimov recalled that the Stockholm document provided that a notification of military activity should be made by the participating nation on whose territory this event was to take place even if the forces of that nation did not take part in the event or their numerical strength was lower than the notifiable level.

The same order exists for the notification, two years in advance, of conducting military activity on the territory of participating nations, involving more than 75,000 men.

The inspection also revealed, he said, that all three exercises conducted in the area under inspection followed a general plan and represented a unified action of NATO's Joint Armed Forces with the total numerical strength of the troops exceeding 170,000 men.

"In this way, the U.S. delegation's denial made in Vienna does not affect the essence of the issue we have raised," Gerasimov said.

"Once again we express the hope that all the participating nations will strictly abide by the Stockholm agreements on confidence-building measures and security in Europe."

Discusses Afghan Situation

LD1710151588 Moscow TASS in English 1445 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—The new Soviet ambassador to Afghanistan, First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov, arrived in Kabul Saturday and presented his credentials to Afghan President Najibullah Sunday, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Directorate, was speaking at a briefing for Soviet and foreign correspondents.

Commenting on developments in Afghanistan, he said Afghan authorities have information to the effect that the die-hard opposition is planning further actions soon to destabilize the situation.

Among other things, it is being planned to bring counterfeit banknotes to a total tune of four billion afghanis into Afghanistan. They will be used to buy food and other staples to provoke acute shortages of the necessaries.

Besides, military operations are being planned to prevent food supplies from the countryside to cities.

Gerasimov said that, according to other information available, a group of foreign advisers has come to an opposition group led by Turan Ismail in Herat Province, bringing a batch of radio stations, special knives with capsules of toxins and a large amount of afghanis.

A group of five British advisers has infiltrated Sorhe district in Lowgar Province and is distributing large sums of money among the local population for bribing purposes.

There is also trustworthy information that 165 million dollars and large lots of weapons for opposition groups operating in Afghan territory have been turned over to opposition leaders based in Peshawar by representatives of the U.S. Administration.

Reports Protest Made to Pakistan

LD1710152188 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—By allowing the presence in its territory of the "government" of Afghan opposition and encouraging its activity, Islamabad is violating specific commitments under the bilateral Afghan- Pakistani agreement on the principles of mutual relations, Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, said at a briefing here today. He reported that on October 14 Igor Rogachev, Soviet deputy foreign minister, invited over Abdul Sattar, Pakistani ambassador in Mosocw, and drew his attention to Pakistan's continuing violations of its commitments under the Geneva accords.

One such violation was the setting up in Pakistani territory by the "Alliance of Seven" of the so-called "transitional government of the mujahidin of Afghanistan." This matter was repeatedly discussed during meetings between the Soviet and Pakistani foreign ministers. However, as a rule, the Pakistani side tried to get

away from its responsibility by asserting that there are no "Afghan governments" in Pakistani territory and that what is at issue is allegedly only an intention to set up such a government.

All this notwithstanding, however, the Soviet Foreign Ministry's spokesman said, the facts indicate that such a government has not only been established but is increasing its activity, clearly with the knowledge of, and aided and abetted by, the Pakistani authorities. Thus, in September, some of the foreign missions in Islamabad, including the Embassy of the USSR, received a circular note from the so-called "transitional government of the mujahidin of Afghanistan." The text of the note, Gennadiy Gerasimov said, indicated the address of the headquarters: Pakistan, Peshawar, Abdara Road, Hattak House. This "document' was signed by Ahmad Shah, prime minister of the "transitional government."

By resort to such actions, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman went on to say, the Afghan counter-revolution not only has given the lie to the assertions of Pakistani authorities about the absence of a "transitional government" in its territory but also gave fresh proof that the "alliance" does not want the setting up in Kabul of a broadly-based government and only strives to set up an administration of its own. It is for this reason that the "alliance" rejects both Kabul's proposals and the ideas of Diego Cordovez which met with the understanding of most of the sides involved in the Afghan settlement.

In this way, Gennadiy Gerasimov said, Islamabad's assurances about its intention to contribute to the setting up of a broadly-based government in Afghanistan are clearly at variance with its active assistance to the subversive activities pursued by the "transitional government" in its territory. "Such a duality of the position does not do honour to the Pakistani side, contributing, in our view, to fanning up an atmosphere of confrontation in the approaches to the settlement inside Afghanistan," the chief of the Information Directorate of the Soviet Foreign Ministry said.

"The Soviet side," Gerasimov went on to say, "has lodged a protest in connection with the fact that the Pakistani authorities, in violation of the Geneva accords, permit the activity of the so-called 'transitional government,' which is hostile to the Republic of Afghanistan, and declares that all responsibility for such actions which essentially lead to the disruption of the Geneva process, rests on the Pakistani leadership."

Notes Aid to Afghanistan

LD1710174488 Moscow TASS in English 1636 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—The Soviet Union is making every effort for the transition from confrontation and tension in the Afghan problem to constructive cooperation to acquire the nature of a stable tendency, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said at a briefing today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the ministry's Information Directorate, said the Soviet side highly assessed efforts in that direction, taken by the U.N. secretary general and the special U.N. coordinator for humanitarian and economic assistance programmes relating to Afghanistan.

The Soviet delegation to an international conference on contributions to those programmes, held on October 12 in New York, said that the USSR accounted for more than 75 per cent of the 7-odd billion dollars in foreign aid given to Afghanistan over 35 years.

Facilities, built jointly by the Soviet Union and Afghanistan, account for 100 per cent of gas production and large-panel house building, and about 60 per cent of power production in that country.

Soviet assistance in geological prospecting made it possible to discover in Afghanistan commercial reserves of gas, oil, iron and copper ore, and gold.

The aggregate volume of Soviet economic aid to Afghanistan amounted to some 680 million dollars in 1987, and is expected to reach 720 million dollars in 1988.

"The Soviet Union has from the outset supported the U.N. secretary general's initiative for rendering multilateral assistance to Afghanistan within the framework of the United Nations and its specialised agencies and is going to take an active part in the programmes' implementation," Gerasimov said.

"The announcement by the Soviet delegation at the international conference in New York of the Soviet Government's decision to make a contribution of 400 million roubles (or about 600 million dollars) to the U.N. humanitarian and economic assistance programmes relating to Afghanistan proves this intention," the Foreign Ministry spokesman went on.

This assistance will be rendered through U.N. coordinator Aga Khan and is intended for all Afghan provinces.

Previews Human Rights Meeting

LD1710152488 Moscow TASS in English 1513 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—A regional seminar of European socialist countries on human rights and administration of justice will be held in Moscow under the U.N. aegis from November 21 through 25, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the ministry's Information Directorate, was speaking at a briefing for Soviet and foreign reporters.

This is the first time the United Nations is organising such a seminar with the participation of socialist countries.

The seminar will be part of the U.N. programme of actions to mark 40 years of the universal declaration of human rights.

It will be attended by prominent Soviet and foreign specialists—U.N. experts, representatives of law-enforcement institutions, legal scholars, and public figures.

The organiser of the seminar is the Soviet U.N. Association.

Jan Maertenson, U.N. deputy director general and director of the U.N. Centre on Human Rights, will speak at the opening ceremony.

As to a European conference on humanitarian issues, Gerasimov went on, "we support its convocation in Paris in 1989—the year of the 200th anniversary of the great French revolution".

"We also support the idea of convening the next conference on the same subject in Copenhagen in 1990," the spokesman said.

"At the same time, we insistently invite everyone to Moscow for a conference on humanitarian issues in 1991. We have been supported in this respect by France," Gerasimov said.

Notes Soviet-Italian Credit Agreement

LD1710163488 Moscow TASS in English 1606 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—An intergovernmental Soviet-Italian agreement signed in Moscow October 14 provides for a consortium of Italian banks to grant the Soviet Bank for External Economic Relations a credit worth 680 million U.S. dollars, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said here today.

Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Directorate, told a briefing that the money will be used to finance Italian supplies of equipment for the Soviet consumer goods industry.

UN Begins Discussion of Peacekeeping Operations

LD1710215688 Moscow TASS in English 2057 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] New York October 17 TASS—The 43rd session of the United Nations General Assembly embarks today on discussing one of the major items of its agenda—a comprehensive consideration of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all its aspects. The USSR delegation at a press conference emphasised the importance of such operations for enhancing the peace-building potential of the United Nations and for increasing its practical contribution to the maintenance of a lasting peace and universal security.

The Soviet Union would be prepared to assign its own military contingents for United Nations peace-keeping operations if the parties concerned show an interest and express their consent, the Soviet representative Richard Ovinnikov said at a press conference. He said that the Soviet side would not object to corresponding participation of the USA and other great powers.

Petrovskiy on Peacekeeping Forces

LD1810091388 Moscow TASS in English 0857 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] New York October 18 TASS—The 43rd session of the United Nations General Assembly on Monday began discussing one of major items on the agenda: peace-keeping operations in all their aspects.

The blue-helmeted U.N. officers and men are held in profound respect everywhere and the recent awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to the U.N Peace-Keeping Forces became an expression of their international recognition and is indicative of the importance of this component of the U.N peace-keeping potential.

Soviet proposals, which are aimed at giving a still greater role to U.N operations by strengthening their politico-legal and financial foundations, were set out today in the General Assembly's special political committee by Vladimir Petrovskiy, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR.

Along with operations in the areas of the already existing complications following the achievement of ceasefire accords, time has come to carry them out to avert imminent conflicts, the Soviet representative pointed out.

The refinement of the peace-making and preventing role of U.N. operations presupposes a search for joint new approaches and fresh ideas. Firstly, they apply to a mechanism for making decisions on U.N. operations. In addition to the existing procedure which justifies itself on the whole when such operations are carried out at the request or with the consent of both sides in a conflict and by a decision of or upon notifying the U.N. Security Council, one could think of the possibility to station U.N. observers along the border of a country which seeks to protect itself from interference, only at a request of that country, to send observer and information gathering missions by a decision of the U.N. General Assembly by agreement with the U.N. Security Council, and to empower the U.N. secretary-general to send military observer missions particularly when the task is to prevent an outbreak of conflict.

We also visualise in a new way prospects for Soviet participation in these operations, the representative of the USSR said. If necessary and if U.N. member nations show interest in that, we would be prepared to consider the question of assigning a military contingent from among our Armed Forces.

As has been shown by the evolution of developments in the Persian Gulf, there has arisen a necessity to adapt U.N. operations to new types of activities, the formation of a U.N. naval force, in particular. Such operations at sea have not been applied in U.N. practice so far.

In this connection the Soviet representative suggested that the elaboration of legal principles and possible objectives for U.N. naval operations be started.

Vladimir Petrovskiy emphasized the need to reactivate the Military Staff Committee of the U.N. Security Council, to place at U.N. service the potentialities of this unique military body within its system, to stimulate the work of the U.N. Committee for Peace-Keeping Operations, and to use more fully the resources of the U.N. General Assembly.

Response Made to UN on International Security

LD1810093588 Moscow TASS in English 0925 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] New York October 18 TASS—The task of preventing and settling international disputes and conflicts acquires decisive importance in the contemporary nuclear missile age, for the world has become too fragile and interdependent while the unsettled nature of protracted conflicts has a destabilising effect on the state of international relations, says the Soviet Union's reply to questions asked by the U.N. secretary-general. The questions were included in a report, issued here, on a peaceful resolution of disputes between states.

The concept of comprehensive international security, which has been put forward at U.N. by the socialist countries group, the report points out, includes as its organic part a peaceful settlement of current conflicts and the prevention of an outbreak of new regional ones. This concept envisages further intensification of U.N. efforts aimed at undoing regional conflicts on the basis of the observance of the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of states and full respect for the peoples' right to choose ways for their development.

The Soviet Union suggests setting up, under U.N. auspices and in accordance with the U.N. Charter, an international control mechanism which, along with supervision of compliance with agreements to reduce tension and limit arms, would monitor the military situation in conflict-ridden areas and would promptly submit information to this effect to the United Nations Organization. This would make it possible to have an objective picture of developments and to take measures in time to prevent a military conflict, its expansion or aggravation.

The document points out the unused resources of the International Court of Justice which in recent years had promoted the settlement of a number of contentious issues. The Soviet Union comes out in favour of continuing to discuss the question of mutually-coordinated terms for recognition of the compulsory jurisdiction of the world court.

Any international dispute can be settled peacefully and any global or regional problem resolved provided the states strictly and undeviatingly observe the provisions of the U.N. Charter and use more fully the peacemaking potential inherent in it as well as show goodwill, the document emphasizes.

Katushev Meets With Cuban, Hungarian Officials

PM1710133188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 88 Morning Edition p5

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 11-12 October K.F. Katushev, USSR minister of foreign economic relations, had meetings with A. Esquivel Yedra, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers, and J. Marjai, deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers and Hungarian trade minister.

United States & Canada

U.S. Plans 'Nuclear War' Maneuvers in Pacific

LD1710140788 Moscow World Service in English 1210 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

[Text] In Moscow, attention has been drawn to a report of the Japanese newspaper SANKEI SHIMBUN about the United States conducting naval exercises in the western Pacific next year. Here is what Radio Moscow commentator Yuriy Solton writes.

Military exercises are actually something commonplace. All countries hold them regularly. This time, however, the maneuvers are to be different. Judging by what the Japanese newspaper says, the Pentagon wants to rehearse a limited nuclear war in the Asian and Pacific region. Taking part in the exercises, codenamed Pacex, will be four aircraft carrier units, a big group of other warships, two or three land divisions, and more than 500 planes, including the nuclear-capable B-52 strategic bombers.

American troops are to be dispatched to the site of the naval exercises not only from the American continent and the [as heard] Hawaii, but also from bases in South Korea, Japan, and the Philippines. Other Asian and Pacific countries having allied relations with the United States are expected to take part in the military demonstration. The exercises are to be held in a vast area, including the seas of Okhotsk, Japan, and South Korea, that is, close to the borders with the Soviet Union, China, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It is planned to even imitate the landing of American marines in Soviet Kamchatka and the Kurile Islands.

It is very indicative that reports about the coming naval exercises leak into the press at a time when the countries of Asia and the Pacific are widely discussing the Soviet initiatives advanced by Mikhail Gorbachev in Krasnoyarsk a month ago. They provide for improving the situation in the region, easing tension, reducing arms and consequently changing the military policy. As for the United States, it has reacted to the initiative by planning a big military provocation capable of seriously complicating the situation in the Asian and Pacific regions.

TASS Notes Exercises

LD1610220188 Moscow TASS in English 2149 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] Tokyo October 17 TASS—In the autumn of next year the United States plans to hold the biggest exercises in history in the Pacific with the participation of land forces, Navy and the Airforce. The exercises will be codenamed Pacex. The Japanese newspaper SANKEI SHIMBUN reports this on Sunday with the reference to informed sources. The newspaper writes Washington demands that all the Asian-Pacific countries maintaining allied relations with the USA, including Japan, should take part in this unprecedented show of military strength planned for September-October. The exercises will take up a huge area in the Pacific, including the areas adjoining to the Aleutian Islands, the Sea of Okhotsk, the Sea of Japan and the South China Sea.

From the U.S. side alone, Pacex exercises will involve four carrier-based groups of the U.S. Third and Seventh Fleets, a large unit of other ships, two or three divisions of land forces, and more than 500 aircraft including B-52 strategic bombers, nuclear delivery vehicles. U.S. servicemen not only from the mainland part of the USA and the Hawaii but also from the Pentagon bases in Japan, South Korea, the Philippines and the Marianas are to take part in the exercises.

Solton Comments on Bush-Dukakis Campaign

LD1410153288 Moscow World Service in English 1210 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

[Text] The television debate between the two chief runners for the American presidency held [words indistinct] in line with the many-month-long election campaign. On 8 November, we'll learn the name of the person who is to replace Ronald Reagan at White House. This may be the Republican contender, George Bush, now the country's vice president, or the Democratic one, Michael Dukakis, the current governor of the state of Massachusetts. The change in leadership in the United States is, of course, an internal affair of that country. But the answer to the question what policy the new administration is to choose, especially on the international scene, interests not only the Americans. Yuriy Solton elaborates; and this is what he writes:

[Solton] The public opinion poll revealed that the Americans today give some preference to George Bush. But other estimates indicate that more than one-third of the voters have not yet decided who they'll vote for and whether they'll turn up at the polling stations on 8th November, since neither of the candidates suits them. In one of its comments THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote recently that the American public is fed up with both the candidates themselves and their methods of running election campaigns. According to the paper, the Americans feel that none of the candidates put forward new ideas or touched upon topical problems. This assessment, in my opinion, is true when it comes to the candidates' views on home affairs. As far as foreign policy is concerned, these views are as definite as they are different.

I think Michael Dukakis campaigns for more realistic positions. He can hardly be regarded as a liberal, a follower of disarmament as his rivals try to pose him. The list of weapons that he introduced to the voters contains the latest Stealth aircraft, new Trident-2 installations mounted on submarines, new kinds of cruise missiles, and many others. But what appeals to me,

writes Yuriy Solton, in his position is the firmly expressed intention to go ahead, if he wins the election, with the process of disarmament, launched by the Soviet-American treaty on the elimination of the two classes of nuclear missiles.

The position of George Bush and his co-partner in elections, a runner for the vice presidency from the Republican Party Senator Dan Quayle, appears to be more bellicose. The latter even claims the role of a hawk politician. The senator says, for instance, that if Bush comes to power his administration should give up the White House current approach to the talks with the Soviet Union on the reduction of strategic offensive weapons, slow down their progress and make the final preparation of the treaty dependent on whether the Soviet Union will agree to make concessions in the talks on conventional arms.

Now, how should this kind of statement be treated? I think here allowance should be made for the current pre-election rivalry. In a bid to win more votes, much is said that is quickly forgotten after coming to power. I think no matter who will be elected the continuity of the course that the Reagan administration has been following in the last few years will be preserved, and I have in mind, first of all, the continuation of the Soviet-American dialogue on the basis of the mutual account for one another's interests, and joint searches for ways to ease the nuclear threat. At any rate, most of the Americans are in favor of this. He who will head the future administration will have to reckon with their opinions if he wants to or not.

Poll Gives Bush Television Debate 'Victory'

PM1410165088 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
15 Oct 88 First Edition p 1

[Own correspondent Viktor Linnik report under the rubric "Correspondent Comments": "A Point to Bush"]

[Text] New York, 14 Oct—So the second television debate between George Bush and Michael Dukakis is behind us. This is basically the last milestone highlighted by the U.S. mass media in the presidential marathon that has lasted for many months and ends on 8 November. According to a poll carried out immediately after the end of the debate in Los Angeles, 49 percent of those polled gave the victory to the vice president, and 33 percent to the governor of Massachusetts.

This time the candidates for the Democratic and Republican Parties behaved in a more relaxed way, were unconstrained, and even went so far as to pay each other a few compliments, something there was not the slightest hint of in their first television duel. Bush criticized Dukakis' liberalism on socioeconomic issues. After R. Reagan's 8 years in the White House, the label "liberal" has become a bugaboo in America, which is itself a sign of the present state of political morals in the United States. Liberals, in Republican terminology, are advocates of more government and more federal spending on socioeconomic programs. Naturally, Dukakis' "naivete" on foreign policy issues did not go unremarked either. How can you cut strategic nuclear programs unilaterally, as Dukakis proposes, at a time when we are conducting talks with the USSR, Bush asked. Our administration's experience, he went on, has demonstrated the effectiveness of one approach: peace only from a position of strength.

That was, so to speak, a thrust from the right. And it was followed, without a pause to draw breath, by an attack on the Democrats from the left: I will never do what the Carter administration did when it imposed an embargo on grain sales to the Soviet Union in 1980, Bush declared. No wonder M. Gorbachev asked me—can the United States be regarded as a reliable partner?

Dukakis, who cannot, of course, boast of a track record like Bush's, criticized the change in his positions on a whole series of issues—from social insurance and taxation to environmental conservation. So which George Bush are we dealing with today, Dukakis repeatedly appealed to the audience.

The television debates are only ever advantageous to whichever of the two contenders is behind in the presidential race. They give the laggard a chance to regain some ground and change his position for the better. Throughout recent weeks Dukakis has been the laggard, lagging 2-7 percent behind Bush according to all the polls of potential voters.

What lies behind Bush's position in the lead? By no means the worst economic situation in the country (unemployment has fallen to its lowest level for 14 years), successes for the administration in the sphere of Soviet-American relations, the desire for continuity, and, not least, the desire to avoid a repetition of the mistake made in 1976 when J. Carter, who had no foreign policy experience, was elected president.

"Heat, but no light"—that was the comment on the first debate between Bush and Dukakis, meaning that the contenders were more inclined to engage in mutual accusations and reproaches than to discuss the substance of the problems facing the country. "Neither heat nor light"—that is how the second debate between the contenders has been described. And it looks like a fair assessment.

Poll Shows 'Clear Trend' Toward Bush Victory

PM1710092388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
14 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Shalnev report under rubric "Facts, Events, Opinions": "If the Election Were Held Today"]

[Text] New York—If the presidential election were held in the United States today, George Bush would have a clear victory over Democratic candidate Michael

Dukakis. This is the result of a public opinion poll conducted by the ABC television company in conjunction with THE WASHINGTON POST.

The poll is noteworthy because it involved some 10,000 people, whereas normally not more than 2,000 take part. This means that in this case the accuracy of the prediction is considerably higher.

In order to win, the candidate must gain 270 electoral college votes. But, judging from the research conducted by ABC and THE WASHINGTON POST, the states "firmly in favor" of Bush produce a total of 220 electoral college votes. Dukakis' "guarantees" are more modest: The states firmly on his side produce only 30 electoral college votes.

The poll also revealed that states with a total of 180 electoral college votes are "likely to support" Bush. The indicator for Dukakis is 59 electoral college votes. With this distribution of votes the vice president will win a "landslide," as they say in the United States.

In an attempt to discover why the electorate is inclined one way rather than the other, ABC and THE WASHINGTON POST reached the following results: 52 percent of the respondents, against 46 percent, believe that the United States is on the right road and that there is nothing in particular to complain about; Bush appeals to 54 percent of the voters and Dukakis appeals to 44 percent.

As for why Dukakis has fallen so disastrously behind the vice president, political analysts point out that the Massachusetts governor has no central theme or central slogan in his campaign and nothing that could be called a "key message" for his voters. In the words of one ABC commentator, Dukakis is simply waiting for the Bush campaign to come to grief on something.

These expectations have yet to be justified, and even the "Quayle factor"—relating to the inexperience, provincialism, and relative youth of the Republican vice presidential candidate—has failed to yield the dividends on which the Democrats had been counting.

Bush, one feels, does have a central theme. And not even just one. He has the themes of patriotism, uncompromising struggle against crime, and the greatness of family traditions and family values. For those usually referred to as ordinary Americans these are very important themes, even if they are not given real substance by the candidate's promises.

Although the opinion poll carried weight—if you think of the number of people who took part in it—the organizers refuse to draw conclusions as to what will happen in a month's time, on 8 November, rather than today. A month, they say, is a substantial period. A lot can happen in that time.

That is so. But the trend, I believe, is clear nevertheless.

Bush Role in Iran-Contra Operation Reviewed

LD1710131288 Moscow TASS in English 1229 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Washington October 17 TASS—TASS correspondent Igor Ignatiyev reports:

U.S. Vice President George Bush and his assistant for national security affairs Donald Gregg continue to persistently refute their participation in the secret arms deliveries to the contras within the framework of the Iran-contras operation. The exposure of the operation brought about the worst political crisis in the U.S. in the past decade. However, those refutations are a component part of the attempts to conceal their true role in a secret war waged by the Reagan administration against the Sandinist Government of Nicaragua, the journal ROLLING STONE wrote in its latest issue.

Staff members of the journal held their own investigation. They talked with more than 50 diplomats, career servicemen and intelligence officers, studied judicial documents and Congressional materials. On the basis of this investigation ROLLING STONE maintains that Bush and Gregg were deeply involved in the realization of an operation code-named "Black Eagle". It had the same objective as the "Iran-contras" operation coordinated from the White House by Oliver North, senior official of the apparatus of the National Security Council, specifically the supplying of anti-Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups with arms and ammunition bypassing a ban imposed by U.S. Congress. Both operations were masterminded by CIA director Willaim Casey. The implementation of the "Black Eagle" was started much earlier.

Quoting a retired army officer whose assumed name is Lew Archer, ROLLING STONE reported that after meeting Casey in summer 1982 Bush had agreed to use the apparatus of his institution for providing a cover-up for the "Black Eagle" operation. Donald Gregg, CIA veteran who was appointed assistant to the vice-president for national security affairs was assigned the role of its chief coordinator.

Retired CIA officers, U.S. servicemen, agents of foreign intelligence services, specifically, the Israeli one, as well as international arms dealers were drawn into the participation in the realization of the "Black Eagle" operation. According to Archer, the activities of American participants in the operation were financed from the secret funds of the CIA and the Pentagon.

China

Soviet Science Exhibition for Beijing Previewed

PM1310141588 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 13 Oct 88 p 3

[V. Lapin report: "Exhibition in China"]

[Text] A mockup of the Soviet "Energiya" launcher, samples of state-of-the-art composites and polymers, the latest car models, working machine tools, machines,

equipment, and various samples of finished products will be exhibited in the "Soviet Science and Technology" exhibition to be held in Beijing in less than a month. This exhibition—the first after a break of 25 years—will be the centerpiece of the Soviet Science and Technology Days in the PRC. Soviet and foreign journalists familiarized themselves with the exhibition program and features at a news conference held at the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology.

The scale of one of the most representative exhibitions that our country has ever staged abroad is equal to the giant potential for cooperation between two of the world's largest states—the USSR and the PRC. Reviving and, in most areas, establishing scientific and technical contacts with our Chinese colleagues is the aim of the organizers of the Soviet science and technology festival whose program is extremely diverse and multifaceted. Considerable attention will be devoted to cooperation within the framework of the two countries' agro-industrial complexes.

The Soviet Science and Technology Days in the PRC have been timed to coincide with the 71st anniversary of Great October. It is planned to hold a similar exhibition of Chinese achievements in our country in May and June of next year.

IZVESTIYA on Exhibition

PM1710125188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 5

[M. Yusin report: "Twenty-Five Years Later"]

[Text] For 25 years the people of the PRC have not had the opportunity to become acquainted with the latest achievements of Soviet scientific and technical thought. The exhibition "Science and Technology in the USSR," which will open 8 November at the Beijing exhibition complex, will probably help to eliminate this dearth of information.

This was said at a news conference held at the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology and devoted to the forthcoming opening of Soviet Science and Technology Days in China. The staging of the event is timed to coincide with the 71st anniversary of the October Revolution. The Soviet delegation going to China will be headed by B.L. Tolstykh, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology.

The scale of the "Science and Technology in the USSR" exhibition (it is to be the central event in the USSR Days) is revealed by the following figures: The exhibition will cover an area of 7,000 square meters; 60 ministries and departments and 95 scientific research institutes will be involved in its organization. Some 3,000 exhibits will be on display in the 17 different sections.

"The exhibition has several distinctive features," V. Yezhkov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology and chairman of the Science and Technology Days organizing committee, said. "One of its aims is to promote the conclusion of commercial contracts. In selecting the exhibits, we are giving preference to those which could interest our Chinese partners."

Taking into account our mutual interest in the development of cooperation between China and the Soviet Union's border regions, individual sections at the exhibition will display exhibits from union republics—Uzbekistan, Kirghizia, Tajikistan, and Kazakhstan—as well as from Maritime, Khabarovsk, and Krasnoyarsk Krays in the RSFSR.

Another feature of the USSR Days in China will be the arrival of 20 scientists of world renown. They will meet Chinese colleagues, give lectures and reports, and take part in discussions and "roundtable" sessions. Ophthalmologist S.N. Fedorov may even perform some operations in Beijing...

The main exhibition will be supplemented by an exhibition of Soviet scientific and technical literature and postage stamps with scientific themes. It is planned to organize the free distribution of Soviet political and scientific literature among the visitors to the exhibition and the sale of booklets, postcards, stamps, records, and other souvenirs. The guests will be able to see more than 90 movies and video films. The walls of the Beijing exhibition complex will be decorated with pictures by A. Sokolov, USSR people's artist, cosmonaut A. Leonov, and artists from the Baltic and Central Asian republics.

PRC Premier's Call for Construction Cutback Noted

PM1710075588 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "At PRC State Council Session"]

[Text] Beijing, 13 Nov—All government institutions should take urgent measures to implement the decisions of the recent CPC Central Committee plenum, which put forward the task of improving economic conditions and regulating economic procedures. This was stressed by Li Peng, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo Standing Committee and premier of the PRC State Council, at a PRC State Council session held here.

The Chinese head of government noted that the PRC State Council and its subordinate institutions should set an example in limiting the scale of capital construction and reducing the construction of administrative buildings; the State Council itself and its subordinate institutions should change their work style and introduce a system of strict personal responsibility in the process of

improving economic conditions and regulating economic procedures. If problems increase, the departments or officials dealing with specific questions should be held responsible.

Northeast Asia

CPSU Greets Japan Communist Party Chairman

PM1710111588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
17 Oct 88 Second Edition p 1

[CPSU Central Committee birthday message to Japan Communist Party Chairman Miyamoto]

[Text] To Comrade Kenji Miyamoto, chairman of the Japan Communist Party [JCP] Central Committee.

Dear Comrade Miyamoto,

The CPSU Central Committee sends you cordial congratulations on your birthday and wishes you good health and successful activity.

You are known in the Soviet Union as a communist movement veteran who made a big contribution to the postwar resurrection of the JCP, which has become a mass organization and influential political force in the country. The Japanese Communists' consistent actions for peace and the complete prohibition and destruction of nuclear weapons have earned them respect.

We express confidence that equal cooperation between the CPSU and JCP on the basis of the new principles of mutual relations that are being established in the world communist movement meets the interests of our parties and the Soviet and Japanese peoples and the cause of peace and progress.

We wish you good health and fruitful activity for the benefit of the Japanese people.

Communist greetings

The CPSU Central Committee.

Rogachev Meets Japanese Socialist Delegation

PM1710133388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
14 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 12 October I.A. Rogachev, USSR deputy foreign minister, received a delegation of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Special Committee for Japanese-Soviet Relations headed by its chairman, T. Tsushima, which is in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. They had a conversation on questions of Soviet-Japanese relations and the problems of strengthening peace and security in the Far East and the Asian and Pacific region. The Krasnoyarsk initiatives were at the center of the exchange of opinions.

CPSU's Yakovlev Meets With Mongolia's Batmonh

PM1810100988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
16 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Meeting at CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A meeting took place 15 October between A.N. Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the People's Great Hural Presidium, who is in the Soviet Union on a brief vacation.

The comradely talk touched on questions of deepening the all-around fruitful collaboration between the CPSU and the MPRP and the Soviet Union and the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR]. J. Batmonh stressed the tremendous stimulating importance for the development of socialist thought and practice of the processes of restructuring and renewal that have developed in Soviet society under the leadership of the CPSU. He described the problems on whose solution the MPR communists and working people are now working in implementing the course outlined by the MPRP toward the acceleration of socioeconomic development. He noted the importance of the creative exchange of experience among the socialist countries.

A.N. Yakovlev informed J. Batmonh of the practical measures the CPSU Central Committee is taking to implement the decisions of the 19th all-union party conference and the CPSU Central Committee September plenum and dwelt on a number of questions of ideological backup for the present stage of the restructuring processes in the party and country.

There was an exchange of opinions on questions, topical for both parties, of improving and enriching ideological-political work at the present turning point in the development of socialism and of completely overcoming various distortions and extraneous features connected with deviation from Leninist principles and norms of party and state life.

During the talk there was a discussion of several aspects of the international situation. A.N. Yakovlev described the USSR's constructive efforts on many planes in the international arena, which have met with broad international recognition. J. Batmonh commented with approval on the foreign policy initiatives put forward by M.S. Gorbachev in Krasnoyarsk and described the headway made by the proposals in the MPR in the sphere of international politics. Emphasis was placed on the mutual desire of the two fraternal parties and states, together with all interested countries and social forces of the region, to do everything necessary and possible to further normalize the world situation.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Vietnamese Party Delegation Visits 5-14 Oct

PM1710101188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
15 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] A delegation of Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] workers headed by Nong Duc Manh, candidate member of the CPV Central Committee and secretary of Bac Thai Province party committee, was in the Soviet Union 5-14 October in accordance with the plan for interparty ties. The Vietnamese comrades familiarized themselves with the experience of implementing restructuring and the democratization of party life and Soviet society. The delegation had meetings and talks at CPSU Central Committee departments, the CPSU Central Committee Social Sciences Academy, Kabardino-Balkar CPSU Obkom, and party gorkoms and raykoms, and visited a number of industrial and agricultural enterprises in the Kabardino-Balkar ASSR.

Soviet-Vietnamese Cultural Protocol Signed

PM1710102588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
15 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] The first session of the Soviet-SRV Intergovernmental Cultural Cooperation Commission ended in Moscow 14 October.

The sides noted the great importance of the creation of the intergovernmental commission for the development of Soviet-Vietnamese ties in the sphere of culture, art, radio, television, film, publishing, and education. They discussed the state of cooperation in publishing and book exchange, measures to further improve these areas, and questions of training culture cadres for the SRV.

V.G. Zakharov, USSR minister of culture, and Tran Van Phac, SRV minister of culture, signed a protocol on the results of the session.

Vietnam-Cambodia Communique on Withdrawal Noted

PM1710133588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
17 Oct 88 Second Edition p 6

[TASS report: "On the Withdrawal of Vietnamese Volunteers"]

[Text] Hanoi, 16 Oct—Subunits drawn from the 50,000 Vietnamese volunteers set for withdrawal this year will return home each month, and the last subunit drawn from this part of the contingent will be withdrawn from Cambodia by land and by sea this December. This is stated in an SRV National Defense Ministry and PRK Defense Ministry joint communique issued today.

In line with the accord between the SRV and PRK Governments on the return home of 50,000 Vietnamese volunteers from Cambodia in 1988, the document points out, the Vietnamese volunteer force command and a number of control, supply, and technical support units have already been withdrawn. The SRV and PRK invite representatives of any country, international organizations, news agencies, radio and television correspondents, and anyone who is interested in the subject to come and observe the troop withdrawal in December 1988, the communique stresses.

Sihanouk Cited on Khmer Rouge Role in Government

PM1710090588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
14 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Unattributed report under rubric "From the IZVESTIYA Teletype Room": "Statement by Sihanouk"]

[Text] According to reports from Washington, at a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Norodom Sihanouk said that representatives of the "Khmer Rouge" must take part in the future government of Cambodia.

In this respect he pointed out that those "Khmer Rouge" leaders compromised by mass murder must be replaced by less odious figures.

Kamentsev Receives Australian Businessmen

PM1810103788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
16 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] On 15 October V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received a delegation from Australian business circles headed by D. Hunter, general director of the Australian Trade Commission.

There was a discussion of questions of the search for new ways to expand Soviet-Australian trade and economic ties, drawing in a large number of firms and organizations in both countries, and of the participation of Australian firms in the development of the USSR's Far East.

R. Ashwin, Australian ambassador to the USSR, took part in the talk.

Near East & South Asia

More on Soviet Visitors in Aden for Celebrations

YSP Official Welcomes Group

PM1410133588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
14 Oct 88 Second Edition p 7

[TASS report under general heading: "Delegation Departure"]

[Excerpts] At the invitation of the PDRY [People's Democratic Republic of Yemen] leadership, a Soviet party-government delegation headed by N.V. Talyzin,

candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, left Moscow for Aden 13 October. [passage omitted]

Today the delegation arrived in the PDRY capital. It was met at Aden international airport by S.M. Jubran, candidate member of the Yemen Socialist Party Central Committee Politburo and PDRY minister of fisheries, and other officials. The welcoming party included A.I. Rachkov, USSR ambassador to the PDRY.

TV Cast on 'Revolution Day'

LD1410100588 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 13 Oct 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] Tomorrow, 14 October, the people of Democratic Yemen will be marking their national holiday, the 25th anniversary of revolution day.

[A. Murashkin] The PDRY capital has been transformed in the last few days. The ancient city has put on bright, festive apparel in the Eastern style. [passage omitted]

At the same time as the silver jubilee of the revolution, the PDRY people are marking the 10th anniversary of the day the Yemen Socialist Party was founded.

[Begin recording of 'Ali Salim al-Bid, general secretary of YSP Central Committee, identified by caption, in Arabic with superimposed Russian translation] The birth of the Yemen Socialist Party was, in my view, one of the main achievements of the revolution. The party's program and tasks meet the fundamental interests of the broad masses of the South Yemeni working people. Democratic Yemen is standing firmly on the chosen path, the path of a socialist orientation. Our people have managed to attain a whole range of important achievements along this path, in the spheres of the economy and culture and in the realm of social life. [end recording]

[Murashkin] The party and people of Democratic Yemen endured one of their sternest tests in January 1986. The tragic events led to bloody fighting, which lasted for over 2 weeks. Several thousand people perished, but the party stood its ground. The new leadership of the PDRY has concentrated its efforts on achieving a normalization of the situation in the country and a strengthening of the YSP. Thanks to assistance from socialist countries, and principally from the USSR, national industry, in which the state sector has become the leading one and is growing steadily stronger, is developing in Democratic Yemen. [passage omitted]

Al-Bid Interview on YSP

PM1410144388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Oct 88 Second Edition p 7

[TASS report: "Important Date"]

[Text] Aden, 13 Oct—The creation of the Yemen Socialist Party [YSP], which is now celebrating its 10th anniversary, was the natural continuation of the Yemeni people's anticolonial revolutionary struggle, 'Ali Salim al-Bid, general secretary of the YSP Central Committee, stated in an interview with Soviet correspondents. So it is extremely symbolic that the celebrations to mark the 10th anniversary of the YSP coincide with the 25th anniversary of the 14 October Revolution.

The first, constituent congress of the YSP was held 11-13 October 1978 in Aden. It adopted party platform documents and the party's statutes. The YSP, whose aim is to bring about the revolutionary transformation of society with a view to completely implementing the tasks of the national democratic revolution and moving on to building socialism, contains within its ranks the most progressive workers, peasants, and representatives of the revolutionary intelligentsia.

The party, 'A.S. al-Bid continued, became the expresser of the people's will and aspirations and the vanguard in building a new society in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY]. Today it can be said with conviction that the formation of the YSP was one of the most important achievements of the revolution. It is the party that heads, inspires, and coordinates the efforts of all the working people of a country that has chosen the path of socialist orientation. Transformations have been carried out in the economic, social, and cultural spheres. The forces of counterrevolution and reaction have been dealt a worthy rebuff. At present the party is carrying out strenuous work to objectively overcome the difficulties that have cropped up at the present phase.

Our party is powerful today, has a wealth of experience, and acknowledges the entire magnitude of its responsibility. The YSP is leading the PDRY people to prosperity and to a future without oppression, 'A.S. al-Bid said.

Al-Bid Ceremonial Speech

PM1710143588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Festivities Marking Revolution Anniversary"]

[Text] Aden, 14 Oct—The people of Democratic Yemen have been celebrating glorious dates in their history—the 25th anniversary of the 14 October Revolution and the 10th anniversary of the creation of the Yemen Socialist Party [YSP]. A large military parade and a ceremonial demonstration by working people were held in the country's capital today.

YSP leaders, ministers, and representatives of the public were on the stand in Aden's central square. Delegations from friendly countries, including the Soviet party and government delegation headed by N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, have come to the PDRY to take part in the festivities.

A ceremonial session devoted to the portentous anniversaries was also held here. A speech was delivered by 'Ali Salim al-Bid, general secretary of the YSP Central Committee. He expressed gratitude to all the Yemeni people's friends who have from the very start of the revolution shown solidarity and provided help and support at difficult times, and he gave a high assessment of the level of relations reached with the USSR and the other socialist countries.

Talking about the successes achieved by South Yemeni society during the years of independence, the YSP Central Committee general secretary dwelt on the difficulties and prospects for development. The guarantee of progress in moving down the road chosen by our people, he noted, lies in strengthening the party's role and social unity, developing the economy and the social sphere, and defending our sovereignty.

'Ali Salim al-Bid recalled that positive shifts have recently emerged in the international situation. However, the forces of imperialism, colonialism, Zionism, and reaction have not laid down their arms. Their adventurist course threatens all mankind. In this connection, he pointed out, the Yemeni people again declare their support for all the USSR's peace initiatives and make a high assessment of the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit.

Welcoming the decision to end the Iran-Iraq war, 'Ali Salim al-Bid expressed hope that relations between these countries would normalize in the near future. He called for the withdrawal of all foreign warships and fleets from the Persian Gulf. The South Yemeni leader also called on the Red Sea states to intensify their efforts aimed at easing tension in the region, and to take steps to prevent any foreign military presence.

'Ali Sali al-Bid stressed that, relying on their experience and successes, South Yemeni society will continue to develop, guided by the course mapped out by the revolution, and that the PDRY will travel the socialist road.

'Scores' of Foreigners Celebrate

LD1410155588 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Aden October 14 TASS—The people of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen have marked the 25th anniversary of the October 14 Revolution and the 10th anniversary of the Yemen Socialist Party.

A military parade and a festive demonstration were held today in the country's capital. The leaders of the Yemen Socialist Party, members of the government and representatives of the public reviewed them from the stands in the central square Khormaksar.

Scores of foreign delegations came to this country to attend the celebrations. They included a Soviet party-and-government delegation led by Nikolay Talyzin, an alternate member of the Politburo of the party Central Committee and deputy-chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and a military delegation headed by Soviet Deputy Defence Minister Petr Lushev.

Talyzin Meets Al-Bid

LD1510214188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Oct 88, p 5

["Delegation's Stay"—PRAVDA headline; report on meeting between Yemen Socialist Party Central Committee General Secretary Al-Bid and N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

[Text] Aden October 15 TASS—'Ali Salim al-Bid, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), today received Nikolay Talyzin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, who leads a Soviet party-and-government delegation visiting here on the occasion of festivities marking the 25th anniversary of the October 14 Revolution and the YSP's tenth jubilee.

The two sides discussed in detail matters concerning bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and considered ways for further strengthening of contacts between the CPSU and the YSP.

The sides exchanged views on problems pertaining to the situation in the region and in the world as a whole. The general secretary of the YSP Central Committee was told about the processes of revolutionary restructuring of socio- political life and economic activities in the Soviet Union, about the CPSU's and the Soviet state's foreign-policy course which is based on the new political thinking in international affairs, the new thinking suggested by the Soviet leadership. Support for the efforts of the YSP and the people of Democratic Yemen to resolve the complex tasks facing the Republic in economic and socio-political fields was reaffirmed.

[Moscow TASS in English at 2009 GMT on 15 October in a similar report adds: "The general secretary of the YSP Central Committee, for his part, pointed out a great importance of the foreign policy initiatives which had been proposed and are being implemented by the Soviet leadership and which are aimed at strengthening peace and at ridding mankind of the threat of nuclear war."

Mutual satisfaction with the high level of soviet-Yemeni relations was expressed. The sides' striving for further development and refinement of the relations was reaffirmed."]

Taking part in the meeting were Army General P.G. Lushev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR first deputy defense minister, the head of the Soviet military delegation here; V.G. Chirskov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of the Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises; and A.I. Rachkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR ambassador to the PDRY.

Talyzin Meets Soviet Workers

LD1510194288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1343 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Aden, 15 Oct (TASS)—Nikolay Talyzin, head of a visiting Soviet party and government delegation, candidate member of the CPSU Central Comittee Politburo, and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, today had a meeting with representatives of Soviet labor collectives working in the PDRY.

A thorough exchange of views took place on matters of restructuring and improving trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and the PDRY. A number of fundamental and specific proposals to enhance the effectiveness of activities by Soviet organizations and establishments and to introduce new forms of work were voiced during the meeting. In particular, proposals were made to set up joint enterprises and to make use of cooperative, sub-contracting, and other forms of work abroad, making it possible to lower the outlays and to enhance the mutual advantages of cooperation.

Talyzin Visit Ends

PM1710114788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Aden Departure"]

[Text] Aden, 16 October—A Soviet party-government delegation headed by N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has left Democratic Yemen after participating in the celebrations in connection with the 25th anniversary of the 14 October revolution and 10th anniversary of the formation of the Yemen Socialist Party [YSP].

The delegation was seen off at Aden international airport by S.M. Jubran, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee Politburo and People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] fisheries minister, and other officials. USSR Ambassador to the PDRY A.I. Rachkov was also there to see the delegation off.

Lushev Delegation Departs Aden

LD1710084288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0725 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Aden, 17 Oct (TASS)—A Soviet military delegation headed by Army General P.G. Lushev, USSR first deputy minister of defense, has completed an official visit to the PDRY. It had been taking part in celebrations on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the 14 October Revolution and the 10th anniversary of the Yemen Socialist Party. There were also meetings between the delegation and the PDRY Armed Forces command.

At Aden international airport the delegation was seen off by Colonel H.Q. Tahir, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the YSP Central Committee, first deputy minister of defense, and chief of the General Staff of the PDRY Armed Forces, and other officials.

Among the party seeing the delegation off was A.I. Rachkov, USSR ambassador to the PDRY.

Lushev Arrives in YAR

LD1710155388 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1444 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Sanaa, 17 Sep [as received] (TASS)—Army General P.G. Lushev, USSR first deputy defense minister, arrived in the Yemeni Arab Republic capital today.

Lushev was met at the airport by Colonel S.M. Ghanim, deputy chief of General Staff of the YAR Armed Forces and by other military leaders.

V.V. Popov, USSR ambassador to the YAR, was in the welcoming party.

On the same day Army Gen P.G. Lushev and A.H. AL-Bajiri, chief of General Staff of the YAR Armed Forces, met.

YAR Deputy Prime Minister, Peace Group in Moscow

Presents Message for Gorbachev

LD1410084288 Moscow TASS in English 1953 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 13 TASS—Deputy foreign minister of the USSR Aleksandr Bessmertnykh had a meeting here today with deputy prime minister of the Yemen Arabic Republic Hasan Muhammad Makki, now on a visit to the USSR at the head of a delegation of the Peace and Solidarity Council of the Yemen Arab Republic.

The guest handed over a personal message from President of the Yemen Arab Republic 'Abdallah Salih to General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Mikhail Gorbachev.

Interviewed Before Leaving Moscow

LD1510183188 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Hasan Muhammad Makki, leader of a delegation of the YAR Council of Peace and Solidarity and YAR prime minister, said in an interview with Moscow radio before leaving the Soviet Union that the delegation's visit is a brilliant manifestation of the close friendly relations which have been developing for 60 years between the YAR and the Soviet Union. He expressed confidence that bilateral relations will develop in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.

Makki took the opportunity to extend, through Moscow Radio's Arabic service, fraternal greetings and congratulations to the people of the PDRY on the occasion of their national day and on the anniversary of the 14 October revolution.

Petrovskiy Interview on Soviet Mideast Policies

JN1510175688 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 14 Oct 88 p 18

[Interview with Vladimir Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister, by Hisham Milhim "at the USSR Mission's headquarters in the United Nations"; date not given]

[Text] [Milhim] The "new thinking" raised by Chairman Mikhail Gorbachev includes a new approach concerning the United Nations and its role. Last year, the USSR began to call for enhancing the role of UN peace-keeping forces after it paid its dues to these forces' budget. What are the reasons for this change?

[Petrovskiy] This new aproach in the USSR was a result of a new conception of the world. After we made a new assessment of the world situation, we reached the conclusion that despite the various differences and interests among countries, the main characteristic of today's world is the state of interdependence [preceding word in English] among countries. This makes today's world unique, as if we all are living on one spacehsip called the earth. Hence, the journey of this spaceship should be safe. Moreover, our realization of the interdependence in our world led us to additional conclusions: What kind of security which can be provided in the world now? Our view is that in today's world it is no longer sufficient to be safe from war only, as was the case before.

Despite the importance of this objective, which is still the focus of the international community's activities, there are other dangers such as the problems of backwardness, famine, and environment as well as the human rights violations. All these problems pose dangers to world security. This has also led us to another conclusion: Once there is awareness of the importance of comprehensive security, it will become necessary to tackle these problems at the same time and by political means. In a world based on interdependence, it is important for us to realize that both one-sided and two-sided efforts, despite their importance, are insufficient and should be enhanced through what may be called parallel constructivism [preceding two words in English] among the one-sided, two-sided, and multisided efforts.

This assessment raises before us the United Nations' role. What role should the United Nations play in this world of interdependence? We have noted that the United Nations provides a unique center for large world activities and for balancing the interests of all states. Therefore, the socialist states made at the United Nations the initiative of "a comprehensive system for world security and peace." The debate showed that the main concern in today's world is how to improve the efficiency of both the United Nations and its main institutions.

We not only propose new ideas; we propose a new method of dialogue. In the past, we used to submit draft resolutions, but now we call for the approval of a new method, whereby we say to other states: These are our ideas and proposals, so why do we not work together and put them into acceptable formulas? This means that we are calling for experimentation with the true common work of the United Nations. For this reason, we say that our proposal is new, both in form and context.

Is there any crisis in which the United Nations cannot play a positive role? Take Afghanistan as an example. The UN team there is playing a useful role. We think that this team ought to concentrate its efforts more on the issue of adhering to the Geneva agreements. The United Nations is the only neutral international structure. It provides the UN Security Council and the international community with correct information about the situation. We feel that the issue of adhering to the Geneva agreements is, currently, the most important subject. We are very worried because Pakistan is not adhering to these agreements. Therefore, the only answer is to strengthen the role of the UN team in Afghanistan.

As for the Iraq-Iran war, the UN observers team is also playing a very useful role following the recent problems that emerged there.

In my opinion, if we continue on the same way, in the future crisis management through preventive diplomacy, or in the shadow of preventive diplomacy, will be replaced. The role of the United Nations, particularly that of the peace-keeping forces, will be enhanced.

While mentioning the peace-keeping forces, I would like to say that it is impossible to create a model that will suit all circumstances. Peace-keeping troops must be organized separately for each conflict. The important thing is to to realize that the United Nations provides the best opportunity to preserve peace and prevent the emergence of new conflicts.

[Milhim] You have talked about the need for international cooperation and for efforts on the bilateral and multilateral levels. Yet, last spring, the United Nations failed to achieve any positive progress, which many countries were seeking, including the Soviet Union. What are the realistic possibilities for other countries' participation in these efforts to bring this question away from the sphere of competition between the two superpowers?

[Petrovskiy] Of course, the latest round of disarmament talks did not achieve the desired results. It is known that one of the permanent members of the UN Security Council has prevented agreement. But, I do not want to dramatize this issue. We realize that it is not easy to change ways of thinking, particularly political thinking. It is very difficult to make a sudden change from abnormal to multi-aspect thinking. I believe that in this country, the United States, there are good possibilities for good thinking. Therefore, we still hope that the current session of the UN General Assembly will again discuss some of the questions relating to disarmament, propose new and varied ideas in this regard, and achieve progress.

[Milhim] To what extent has the alleviation of the current state of tension between the Soviet Union and the United States affected the settlement of regional conflicts? Some progress has been achieved with respect to several conflicts, such as Afghanistan, Cambodia, Angola, and the Iraq-Iran war. The only exception is the Arab-Israeli conflict, and to some degree the conflict in Central America, specifically in Nicaragua.

[Petrovskiy] I fully agree with what you say. It pains us very much to see two blanks on the map of political settlements: the Middle East and Central America. This is unacceptable because the process of political settlement should not contain blank spots. The settlement process must be comprehensive, particularly with respect to areas where there are volatile conflicts. We are concerned over this state of affairs. Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze referred to this Soviet concern during his meetings at the United Nations. With respect to the Middle East, what causes us anxiety is that there is on one hand some kind of disharmony between the plan for the settlement of the conflict, that is the international conference on which there is quasi-international consensus, and the absence of real moves on the other. In other words, there is a gap between the action program and its implementation. We believe that the current UN General Assembly session must redress this state of affairs. The USSR foreign minister raised this issue forcefully at the meeting of foreign ministers of permanent members of the UN Security Council. We are satisfied because the UN Security Council members now know our real stand. We are convinced that the time is now ripe to translate the international consensus on the international conference into reality.

[Milhim] Is it true that Minister Shevardnadze has asked the UN Security Council members to play a role in the Middle East similar to that they played prior to their agreement on Resolution No 598 on a cease-fire between Iraq and Iran?

[Petrovskiy] The issue was not raised from the angle of a resemblance between the two conflicts or methods of tackling them. The issue was raised from the premise of the UN Security Council's role in general. The UN Security Council should tackle each conflict in accordance with its specific traits. However, what is obvious is that the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general must assume an important role in the settlement of this conflict.

[Milhim] To what extent did U.S.-Soviet cooperation lead to acceptance of the cease-fire in the Iraq-Iran war, whether in the UN Security Council or within the framework of bilateral contacts?

[Petrovskiy] It is obvious that the most important factor, if not the decisive one, has been the cooperation among the five UN Security Council permanent members, including the Soviet Union and the United States. This consensus among the five permanent members has made it possible to adopt Resolution No. 598, which provides the means and the methods for saving the situation. The second factor is that the consensus that among the five permanent UN Security Council members has removed all obstacles in the way of the political process to settle the conflict. It is important at this stage of the political process that consensus continues to exist among the five permanent members; it must remain a basic and forceful factor for settling the conflict.

[Milhim] UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar has recently spoken of the need to unblock the Iraq-Iran talks. Do you have specific, practical ideas as to how to bring this about and keep the talks from becoming stalemated?

[Petrovskiy] We vigorously support the secretary general's efforts. As a permament UN Security Council member, it is up to us to create a climate favorable to his endeavors. The UN chief has been coordinating his moves with the five permament members of the Security Council, who ought to devote their energies to facilitating the implementation of Resolution No 598.

[Milhim] Some see the situation on the Iraq-Iran border as merely a temporary truce that may degenerate into hostilities. What do you think?

[Petrovskiy] The consequences of such a development will be terrible, and the onus of maintaining peace rests with the permanent and nonpermament members, Iraq and Iran, and the Security Council as well as Perez de Cuellar. It is a collective responsibility. With the political

process in motion, the countries of the region have come to appreciate the advantages of the cease-fire. All are winners, and there are no losers.

[Milhim] According to some reports, the Soviet Union has advised the PLO to delay the proclamation on an independent Palestinian state and the formation of a government-in-exile. The PLO was said to have been advised to take its time and not rush things. What is the truth about the Soviet position?

[Petrovskiy] Our dialogue with the PLO is ongoing. Faruq Qaddumi, PLO Political Department's chief, and I recently met at the United Nations to discuss issues of common concern. We support the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and keep stressing that a Mideast settlement that fails to address the core of the Mideast problem—the Palestinian question—stands no chance. A proclamation of an independent state is a matter for the PLO. It is important that any Mideast settlement be comprehensive and balanced so as to take into account the interests of all parties.

[Milhim] What about the independent Palestinian state?

[Petrovskiy] We only explain our stand toward this issue. This issue concerns them. They know and understand the situation in the region.

[Milhim] But, will you support the Palestinian state if it is declared?

[Petrovskiy] It is still premature at present to talk about this issue. This is a hypothetical question. In the field of realistic politics, we must deal with established facts only. If you begin dealing with hypotheses, then you become an academician, and you will create difficulties for practical agreements.

[Milhim] There were Palestinian and Arab reservations on Minister Shevardnadze's address to the UN General Assembly—at least regarding the text that was distributed—because it ignored any reference to Palestinian rights?

[Petrovskiy] You must take the original text and what was added to it when it was delivered. It mentioned the Palestinians. In his address, he wanted to focus on the points that had not been explained before. Our stand toward the PLO is well known. We attach extreme importance to the Gorbachev-'Arafat meeting last April. During that meeting, an intensified discussion took place, and we explained our views on the situation, how to implement the new political thinking the USSR proposes, and the need for the PLO's participation in the international peace conference, which must balance out the interests of all states.

[Milhim] U.S. press reports have recently said that the Soviet Navy in the Mediterranean plans to use the Syrian port of Tartus on a permanent basis. Syrian officials strongly deny these claims and consider them part of a campaign to tarnish their reputation. What do you have to say on this issue?

[Petrovskiy] This is contrary to facts. We do not seek military bases or a military presence outside the USSR. This is part of our new political thinking. We have proposed liquidating outside military bases and returning our forces from foreign countries by the year 2000. As a first step, we proposed a kind of assurance in this regard. This is what Minister Shevardnadze said in his speech. Therefore, these press reports are baseless.

[Milhim] How do you assess current Soviet-Syrian relations?

[Petrovskiy]I believe that we have good, normal relations. There are contacts between us. I also had a lengthy meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' during the UN General Assembly session. We discussed the situation in the region. We have good relations of friendship that allow us to talk to each other frankly.

[Milhim] Some sides talk about lukewarmness in Soviet-Syrian relations. They give as an example the recent visit by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Moscow when Gorbachev said, in the presence of al-Asad, that it is abnormal for there not to be relations between the USSR and Israel.

[Petrovskiy] This is in your interest. When Gorbachev said that it is abnormal not to have relations between us and Israel, he was speaking about one side of the issue. However, the other side of the issue is that he means that it will be possible to deal with the normalization of relations with Israel in a realistic manner only when the international peace conference begins its work. This is completely in harmony with the Arab states' interests. We consider this as a very important means of achieving a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

[Milhim] Are you saying Soviet-Israeli relations will be kept at a consular level pending the convening of an international conference?

[Petrovskiy] Diplomatic relations with Israel will have to wait until the international conference is held. There are no consular relations at present. Only consular teams recently exchanged visits to Tel Aviv and Moscow to address specific issues. There are no consular relations, strictly speaking. These are measures to address particular details.

[Milhim] How do you evaluate Soviet-Kuwaiti relations against the backdrop of last year's Arabian Gulf developments? Will cooperation in the oil sphere continue?

[Petrovskiy] Yes. Bilateral relations are good, and new areas of cooperation are being explored. Our political dialogue is steadily developing with embassies being active to further improve ties. We are quite happy with the way things are going. Soviet-Kuwaiti relations have the potential for still deeper and more diversified cooperation.

[Milhim] Is a resumption of Soviet-Saudi relations a possibility any time soon? Saudi Arabia has said that its position will change once the Afghan conflict is out of the way.

[Petrovskiy] We will resume or set up ties with all of the states of the region. We are extremely happy that we now maintain relations with the UAE, Qatar, and Oman. Our political dialogue with Saudi Arabia is at an advanced stage. We see the GCC as part of the political reality in the region, and our fresh political approach calls for taking account of this reality.

[Milhim] You have publicly voiced concern over Lebanese developments. Minister Shevardnadze also expressed as much during a meeting of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. What can the Soviet Union, on its own or jointly with other Security Council members, do to arrest the decay and ward off partition?

[Petrovskiy] To beign with, the Lebanese situation is another reminder of the need to work for a comprehensive solution to the Mideast problem. It is part of the whole pitcture. Secondly, it is crucially important at this time that Lebanese sovereignty be maintained and that, toward that end, we join forces with other nations.

[Milhim] Do you maintain contacts with the "two governments" in Lebanon?

[Petrovskiy] Let me put it this way: We maintain relations with the Lebanese state.

[Milhim] Is this to say that you will not adopt a clear stand on your position vis-a-vis either government?

[Petrovskiy] This is an issue for the Lebanese people to settle.

[Milhim] Suppose you take up the matter with the Syrian Government?

[Petrovskiy] Syria and the USSR know each other's positions.

[Milhim] It is noted that some Third World states, including some Arab states, when they were at the stage of resisting colonialism or when they were in military confrontations, received material and political aid from the USSR, but then changed and adopted anti-Soviet and pro-West policies. How do you explain this?

[Petrovskiy] In all these cases, these were domestic issues. In light of the new political thinking, we accept and respect these states' freedom of choice.

[Milhim] Some say that the glasnost policy has produced tangible results and resuscitated ideological and creative life in the USSR. On the other hand, the restructuring policy has not produced similar results, particularly regarding the attempts to reactivate the economy and shake bureacratic control. Is this a sound assessment of the situation?

[Petrovskiy] We have so far witnessed an important period during which intensified discussions have taken place on how to further develop the country and on what steps we should take in domestic policy. These discussions reached their peak with the convocation of the 19th CPSU Congress. The CPSU congress adopted major decisions on our society's economic and political reforms with the objective of creating a legal socialist society. There is also a desire to continue the march toward further democracy and glasnost. We have begun the stage of practical implementation of these decisions. From this viewpoint, the recent CPSU Central Committee meeting was very important. The results of these meetings have shown that restructuring will continue and further deepen. Of course, there will be difficulties, especially since we are adopting new approaches. However, we now have an opportunity to overcome these difficulties to achieve the required practical results in the economic field.

[Milhim] Are there any concerns that the policies of restructuring and glasnost will lead to a crisis regarding the "nationalities issue" in the USSR, particularly in light of what is taking place in Armenia and the Baltic Sea republics?

[Petrovskiy] The restructuring policy paved the way for the people's freedom of expression. We consider this an important development because we now know, for the first time, what are the people's true issues. We have come to know what concerns and what satisfies people. One of the problems of concern to people is the ethnic problem, from which several other republics suffer. However, the important thing is that we have begun to realize the dimensions of this problem. The CPSU Central Committee has the desire to deal with this issue in an atmosphere of democracy and glasnost. We want to reach a national consensus on this issue. When problems are on the surface, they are easier to tackle than when they are covered.

Palestinian Group Visits Moscow 11-17 Oct

LD1710213988 Moscow TASS in English 1816 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—A delegation from the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine led by its General Secretary Nayif Hawatimah, stayed in Moscow from 11 to 17 October at the invitation of the Soviet Afro-Asian Countries Solidarity Committee.

The Democratic Front delegation was received in the Foreign Ministry of the USSR, had meetings and discussions with Soviet Oriental scholars, with the "PRAVDA" newspaper editorial board members and took part in a meeting of solidarity with the struggle of the Arab people of Palestine.

Representatives of Soviet public reaffirmed their solidarity with the selfless struggle of the Palestinian people and restated their resolute support for the uprising of the population in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel.

The Palestinian delegation expressed a profound gratitude to the Soviet people for their invariable support of the struggle waged by the Palestinians.

Leader Hawatimah's News Conference

LD1410162988 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow August [month as received] 14 TASS—The uprising of the Palestinian people in occupied lands brought the Palestinian problem to a qualitatively new, higher level, said Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLOP]. He heads a delegation of the front staying in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

Over a long period of time bourgeois propaganda asserted that Palestinians in occupied lands do not resist the Israeli authorities, that resistance comes from Palestinian camps situated in Lebanon and other Arab countries, Nayif Hawatimah noted at a news conference at the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee today. The uprising that has been lasting for eleven months now and will continue till complete liberation of Palestinian lands has dispelled this propaganda myth, he said.

Nayif Hawatimah noted that the current uprising is a result of the work over 20 years to rally the Palestinian ranks, the work conducted by different political parties and public organisations. The fact that over nearly a whole year the Israeli military machine has been unable to crush the uprising shows how strong the spirit of the Palestinian people is.

The uprising has shaken Israel, the public of Western countries as an earthquake and caused qualitative changes in the policy of Arab countries which unanimously declared for the holding of an international conference on the Middle East, agreed on a political platform and equal representation of Palestinians, Nayif Hawatimah said. He expressed the hope that the plans for the creation of a provisional Palestinian government and an independent state will be supported all over the world.

The delegation of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine which also includes member of the Political Bureau of the Front Mamduh Nofal [name as received] and member of the Central Committee of the Front H. Hisham [name as received] had meetings with the leadership of the Soviet Afro-Asian solidarity Committee and at the USSR Foreign Ministry.

More on PLO's 'Abbas Moscow News Conference

PM1710092588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 5

[G. Charodeyev report under the rubric "From Our Correspondent at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center": "M. 'Abbas: We Are Satisfied With the Results of the Talks"]

[Text] A press conference was held in the conference hall which was addressed by Mahmud 'Abbas (Abu Mazin), member of the PLO Executive Committee.

In his statement to representatives of the press he stressed, in particular, that the PLO is making serious efforts to convene an extraordinary session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in the near future.

The PLO leadership, he said, is currently preparing important, historic decisions. It is no secret that we are discussing among ourselves the questions of forming a provisional Palestinian government and proclaiming Palestinian sovereignty. A political statement is also being prepared. Our delegation has come to Moscow to talk about these initiatives. We are fully satisfied with the results of our talks in Moscow.

Answering a question from an IZVESTIYA correspondent about the elections to be held in Israel in November, M. 'Abbas said, in particular:

"If you look at the political programs of the 30-35 candidates, you will find they range across a whole spectrum of opinions: from the far right to the left wing. The 'Likud' Party program, for example, amounts to this: The expulsion of the Palestinians and annexation. In its turn, the Israel Labor Party (ILP) agrees in principle with the idea of holding an international conference on the Near East. Its representatives say that there should be a withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied territories in some form, on some scale, and within some limits. Whereas the former is acceptable to us, the latter does not even comply with the minimum demands we have made. The results of the elections could be a great surprise."

In response to a question from a French journalist from LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE—what is the situation with regard to the PLO recognizing Israel as a sovereign state?—he said:

"We are calling for an international conference on the Near East. All the sides involved in the conflict—Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, the PLO, and Israel—must take part, as well as the permanent members of the UN Security Council. A solution must be found to the region's problems, and primarily its political problems. If we must recognize the state of Israel, then what kind of state, within which borders? Will Israel accept our recognition? This must all be resolved at an international conference."

On Convening of PNC Session

LD1510191188 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, we present to you a report on the press conference given by Mahmud 'Abbas, head of the Palestinian delegation, which was hosted by the Information Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry on 12 October before the delegation left Moscow. [passage omitted]

Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] talks about the holding of the Palestine National Council [PNC] session.

The AFP correspondent in Moscow asked the following: Is the postponement of the date of the convening of the PNC session not linked with external factors such as the elections in Israel or the standpoint of the Soviet Union?

Replying to this question, Mahmud 'Abbas stated: We do not want to hold a PNC session just for the sake of it. I said at the beginning that we are preparing ourselves for important decisions through dialogue. The dialogue is still taking place and, at the very moment the dialogue ends, we will hold the PNC session. Nobody asked for a postponement, or advised of a postponement or advancement of the date of the PNC session. It depends on the completion of action by the PLO connected with convening the PNC. [passage omitted]

One of the questions addressed to Mahmud 'Abbas concerned the U.S. standpoint on the Palestinian uprising and the Palestinian cause in general.

Replying to this question, Mahmud 'Abbas said the following:

[Begin 'Abbas recording] If we review the U.S. standpoint for the past 10 years, we cannot deny that some change, albeit small, has taken place. Since 1974, the United States has attempted to find separate solutions to the Middle East question. Thus, it was able to (?choose) the defunct President Anwar al-Sadat [word indistinct] to hold with him the Camp David agreements. It was able to continue in this line, although it did not find anybody among the Arabs to comply or dare to comply with it.

During all this period it absolutely refused even to talk about the Middle East with the Soviets. On the other hand, it ensured that real security in the region did not take place.

New data, which I have talked about previously, emerged and forced it to introduce some changes in its standpoints, such as to talk to the Soviet Union as a main partner in the solution of the Middle East conflict, to talk about its acceptance in principle of an international conference, despite the fact that there are disagreements between it and the Soviet Union about its content, or to change some of its special terminology toward the Palestinian people.

In the past, for instance, the words "Palestinian people" were not mentioned in the lexicon of U.S. diplomacy. These words are mentioned, especially in (?Shultz') latest speech. [word indistinct] were talking ambiguously, about the rights of the Palestinian people. They started to talk about them more clearly, especially in (?Shultz') latest speech. In the section in which he talked about an international conference, he said: The Palestinians must accept Resolutions 242 and 338, since they are accepted by the international community, as are the legitimate rights—including the political rights—of the Palestinian people.

It is true that there has been some progress in the U.S. stance; however, it has not yet reached the point which we are calling for.

Why this change in the U.S. stance? Frankly, it is not U.S. noble-mindedness, but it is a result of a new reality which has taken place in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas. There is the constant struggle of the Palestinian people that is hammering on the heads of the White House leaders. There are also many Arab pressures for the need to find a just solution to this problem. There is, moreover, the fantastic international pressure, which has resulted in international accord. [end recording]

Activities in 'Suffering' Afghanistan Reported

Two U.S. 'Instructors' Killed

LD1710131388 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Kabul October 17 TASS—Units of the Afghan Army deployed in Gardeyz staged an operation Saturday against an armed opposition group that shelled the administrative centre of Paktia Province with rockets. Some 1,300 rockets were fired at the city and nearby villages in the past 25 days, the BAKHTAR news agency reports. The barbaric shelling claimed the lives of over 30 civilians, dozens of people were wounded. According to reliable information, the armed opposition group included American and Pakistani advisers. As a result of the operation 35 rebels, two American instructors and two officers of the Pakistani armed forces were killed. Over 100 extremists were wounded.

Combat operations were going on in a number of other Afghan provinces on October 15, including Ghazni, Qandahar and Nangarhar, BAKHTAR reports. According to incomplete information, some 50 rebels were put out of order. An armed group led by Abdol Wakhab [name as received] went over to the side of the state in Sar-e Pol Province.

According to the latest information, another 5 people were killed by rocket shelling last Sunday. This time the rockets exploded in the streets of Kabul and Jalalabad. Extremists committed another crime in Herat Province. A gang led by Nick Muhammed [name as received] ("Islamic Society of Afghanistan") brutally murdered six peasants. Six months before they had been forcibly driven to the mountains for building depots and fortifications for the rebels. After they had finished the construction they had been killed for the sake of keeping secret the location of the structures.

In the past several days some 3,000 Afghan nationals returned home from Iran and Pakistan. After crossing the border they were accommodated in peace hotels in the provinces of Nangarhar, Qandahar, Paktia and Nimruz. After they have some rest, undergo medical treatment and receive material assistance, they will be taken by state-owned transport facilities to the areas of their permanent residence.

The 101st note of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan was handed in Sunday to the U.N. mission in Afghanistan. It cited new facts dealing with the continuing violation of the Geneva accords by the Pakistani side.

U.S., Pakistan Issue 'Misinformation'

LD1410151988 Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—TASS news analyst Valeriy Vavilov writes:

A "psychological war" against the lawful Afghan Government is being intensified. The Western mass media, with a reference to certain "well informed sources"—diplomats of various Western missions who wished that their names should not be divulged—spread insinuations about the situation in Afghanistan.

Reports are made about "successes of the armed opposition" whose units allegedly seized many provincial and district centres of Afghanistan. Jalalabad, Paghman, Qandahar were named one after another. One more name was given now, Asadabad. Meanwhile, according to official reports, they remain under the control of the Kabul authorities.

Other allegations turn out to be absurd lies, too. This happened as regards the "information" circulated in Islamabad and picked up in the capitals of Western countries about numerous bombing of Pakistani villages by Afghan planes. Accusations of the Afghan Army of the use of chemical weapons and napalm bombs were exposed as lies, too.

It should be noted that unfriendly propaganda absolutely ignores official reports of the Kabul authorities, just as Kabul's invitations to Western journalists to visit the places of events and to see for themselves what happens there and issue truthful information about the events.

Inspections by U.N. observers who went to the scene of events also indicate that insinuations hostile to Kabul are a bluff. These insinations are aimed at slandering the activity of the Kabul authorities and at sowing doubts about the strength of the government's positions.

To the noise of propaganda hullaballoo, Islamabad and Washington, contrary to the Geneva accords, step up support for armed units of the Afghan opposition, supply the "Peshawar seven" with arms and draw even units of the Pakistani Army in combat operations against the Afghan Army.

Apparently Islamabad and Washington resort to misinformation precisely in order to distract the attention from their involvement in the criminal war against the Afghan people.

Rebels Not Achieving 'Objectives'

PM1310110088 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 40, 2 Oct 88 p 1

[Report on interview with Afghan Army Chief Political Department head Lieutenant-General Zabiullah Ziarmal by Boris Gan: "Afghan Rebels Suffer Casualties, Says Afghan Army General"; date, place not given]

[Text] According to Hekmatyar, an Afghan ooposition leader in Pakistan, 80 percent of Afghanistan's large cities are in the hands of the antigovernment forces. "MN" 's Boris Gan asked the head of the Chief Political Department of Afghanistan's Army, Lt-Gen. Zabiullah Ziarmal, to comment.

"Hekmatyar's claim is groundless," said General Ziarmal. "True, the situation in much of the country has been aggravated over the past several months. The country's government rolled back its forces from the regions bordering Pakistan for a purpose. We offered to make these regions demilitarized zones, so as to facilitate the refugees' return from Pakistan. But rebel forces immediately gained control over these territories. I admit that we have lost several principal district towns recently. For example, extremist forces, backed by Pakistani artillery fire recently took over the town of Spin Buldak in the Qandahar Province. Still, the enemy has failed to reach its strategic objectives since the start of the Soviet troop withdrawal.

"We have engaged in defensive, as well as offensive operations. We have routed several large armed gangs of the extremist forces near Kabul and captured large quantities of arms and ammunition which were intended for bombarding the city. Extremists now have more and better weapons than they had in April. Rebels get the weapons from Pakistan's army depots where they are brought from NATO countries, primarily the USA. Thus, Washington and Islamabad are breaking their commitments to promote a political settlement in Afghanistan."

Extremists Continue Shelling

LD1310165088 Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] Kabul October 13 TASS—In the past two days over 100 rockets were fired by extremists on the town of Balkh located in the country's north. As a result of rocketing, six people were killed and 10 wounded. On Wednesday [12 October] 25 ground-to-ground missiles burst in the streets of the city of Gardeyz, the administrative centre of Paktia Province. Two innocent residents fell victims of terrorists' crime. A madrasah, two schools and a hospital were seriously damaged and 8 dwelling houses were destroyed. Yesterday evening three rockets were fired into the Afghan capital.

The Kabul clergy resolutely denounced mutineers fighting against their own people. Merciless actions by the "irreconcilable" opposition killing children, women and the aged, cannot be pardoned under human or Islamic laws. Representatives of the Kabul clergy addressed a message to all Moslems of the country and the world, calling for condemnation of the extremists' crimes.

A session of the lower chamber of the National Council examined questions of ensuring safety on motor roads, in cities and especially in the capital. Speakers pointed to the need for immediate implementation of decisions taken by it.

Units of the Afghan Armed Forces continue mopping up operations against extremist groups. The BAKHTAR agency reports that mutineers lost 29 people in casualties as a result of clashes with regulars. During combat operations they seized great quantities of weapons and ammunition. Six people were killed and eight wounded as a result of an intense clash which erupted during a scramble for loot between gunmen of Gulbeddin and Rabbani.

Direct interference of Pakistan in Afghanistan's home affairs continues. The other day two Pakistani officers Aslam Parwiz and Saifulla infiltrated into Afghanistan, together with extremist groups, to conduct terrorist actions.

The Afghan Foreign Ministry worried over continued violations by Pakistan of the Geneva accords, sent the 98th protest note to the U.N. mission in Afghanistan.

Japanese Instruction of Rebels

PM1410092188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent S. Agafonov "Rejoinder": "'Fighter for Islam' With a Tokyo Residence Permit"]

[Text] Tokyo—It has long been known that Japanese fighters from ultrarightist organizations are taking part in training Afghan opposition units, although few facts concerning this have infiltrated the press.

It has been well known, in particular, that the Japanese instruct the "irreconcilables" in mine-laying and close combat methods and that they often take part in combat operations themselves. However, neither the specific names nor the titles of the organizations that have sent their emissaries to Afghanistan have been cited.

In principle this is easy to explain: According to official police statistics, no fewer than 840 rightist formations exist and operate in Japan, with membership totaling some 120,000 people. It is furthermore practically impossible to choose the right address in this sea of revolutionaries because most of the groupings are semi-legal.

However, secrets always come out sooner or later, and TOKYO SHIMBUN carried an interview with a Japanese "fighter for Islam" whom the reporter dredged up in the United States. One Kishiro Tanaka, 48 years old and an inhabitant of Tokyo's Shinjuku Ward. He fought for 4 years in Afghanistan in detachments of the "Islamic Society of Afghanistan" antirevolutionary grouping.

According to him, particularly since the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan began, there has been a sharp increase—both quantitatively and qualitatively—in shipments of combat equipment and munitions to antigovernment units. Now, Tanaka claims, all these formations' combat units have in their arsenal "surface-to-air" missiles, 82 mm mortars, heavy machineguns, and other weapons. Tanaka said that major munitions dumps are being set up on the approaches to the Afghan capital. It follows from what Tanaka has said that the armed opposition is not accepting political means.

Of course there is no point in trying to present the man from Tokyo as a major protagonist in the Afghan game or in formulating any kind of general concept from his words. Nonetheless he is an eyewitness to and a recent participant in events, so his evidence is not without interest. Tanaka effectively confirms that since the Geneva accords were concluded, the process of undermining them has been progressively intensified—how else can the increased arms shipments to the antigovernment forces be described?

I don't know whether Mr Tanaka meant to be so frank, but his words can't be interpreted in any other way.

Pakistani Air Violation Protested

LD1710163288 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Kabul October 17 TASS—Pakistan's charge d'affaires ad interim in Afghanistan today was summoned to the Afghan Foreign Ministry where a protest was declared to him over another violation of Afghan air space.

The note said that on October 11 a Pakistani Air Force helicopter twice intruded into Afghan air space in the area of the Gash Pass [name as received].

The Afghan Government strongly denounced the intrusions as being obviously at odds with the Geneva agreements, BAKHTAR news agency reported.

Pakistan Blocks Talks on POW's

LD1810091088 Moscow TASS in English 0824 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] New York October 18 TASS—By TASS correspondent Vladimir Mostovets:

To draw the attention of the world public and the mass media to the tragic fate of some 300 Soviet nationals taken prisoner in Afghanistan is the aim of a news conference held by the independent organisation, the International Committee for the Rescue of Russian Prisoners of War in Afghanistan, held here on Monday. The organisation was set up this summer on the initiative of a number of representatives of the public of the USA, the Soviet Union and France, who were guided by the principles of humanism and humaneness.

From the first days of its creation, the organisation did everything possible to secure the release of at least a small number of Soviet servicemen, who are currently held captive on Pakistani territory by the Afghan opposition, Rabbi Bernard Mandelbaum, honourable president of the Jewish seminary, told journalists. In particular, he mentioned last month's meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in New York, who assured the committee that the Soviet Government would do everything possible to secure the release of its citizens, who were taken prisoner during combat operations in Afghanistan. Members of the committee, he said, also met officials from the United Nations, the U.S. Department of State, Pakistan's Embassy in Washington. They established contact with the representatives of the opposition Afghan groups in New York, expressing readiness to meet their leaders to discuss the POW problems.

However, the news conference heard, these efforts of the committee have not produced positive results, primarily because of the stubborn unwillingness of Pakistani authorities to facilitate the solution of the question. Numerous enquiries by representatives of the committee to the Embassy of Pakistan in Washington to allow them to visit the Pakistani city of Peshawar for a meeting with the leaders of the antigovernment Afghan groups invariably met with ungrounded refusal.

Most Americans regard with understanding and approval the humane goals of the committee for the rescue of Russian prisoners of war in Afghanistan. However, its activity is being constantly subjected to vicious attacks by a number of reactionary organisations and, first of all, the House of Freedom. This comment was made, in particular, by one of the organisers of the committee, painter Mikhail Shemyakin. He resolutely refuted the slanderous fabrications of the reactionary press alleging that the committee was acting on orders from Moscow and that once set free Soviet servicemen would be forcibly deported to the USSR and face prosecution by court. The journalists were told about official statements by the representatives of the USSR Ministry of Defense, the USSR procurator's office, which made it absolutely clear that none of the Soviet citizens in prison would face punishment if they wished to return home. As for the alleged pro-Soviet orientation of the organisation, these fabrications are refuted by the make-up of the committee itself, which includes only one Soviet citizen, journalist Iona Andronov. It is highly difficult to suspect Rabbi Mandelbaum of having sympathy to Communism and it is impossible to suspect American journalist Barry Farber, known for his right-wing views.

The statement by the committee, read out at the news conference, expressed the hope that the international public and, first of all, Soviet people would join more actively in the campaign for the release of Soviet POWS. The statement urged realtives of all Soviet servicemen reported as missing in Afghanistan to take part in a demonstration of protest outside the Embassy of Pakistan in Moscow. Such a demonstration is scheduled for November 24.

The journalists were also told that the committee had sent a letter to President Reagan asking for his assistance in the release of Soviet servicemen, taken prisoner by Afghan rebels and taken to Pakistan. At one time during the Moscow summit meeting, the U.S. President promised to facilitate the earliest solution of the problem of the prisoners of war. The reply from the White House has not come yet.

Komplektov Receives Aid Documents

LD1410230188 Moscow TASS in English 2236 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—A selection of U.N. documents on the question of aid to Afghanistan was handed over here on Friday at the request of the U.N. secretary-general and Sadrudin Aga Khan, special U.N. coordinator on humanitarian and economic aid to Afghanistan. The United Nations holds similar ceremonies in the capitals of many countries.

Receiving documents, Viktor Komplektov, deputy foreign minister of the USSR, said that the Soviet Union regarded it as an important political act. It reflected the growing role and prestige of the United Nations in attaining the lofty humane goals set down by its charter. An international conference which discussed contributions to the programmes of humanitarian and economic aid to Afghanistan, called Operation Salam (operation peace), has just ended in New York.

The drafting of the Afghan aid programme and the conference in New York symbolized the pooling of efforts of various states in the noble task of promoting economic rehabilitation of the much suffering country. In that connection, Viktor Komplektov noted great significance which the Soviet Union attached to implementing those programmes.

The USSR, the deputy minister continued, was for the trend of political settlement and constructive cooperation, started in Geneva, to become dominant. The course of the Afghan leadership on national reconciliation, based on dialogue with all opposition forces inside and outside the country, was proceeding in the same course.

The Soviet Union highly assessed the efforts of the U.N. secretary-general and the special coordinator to render assistance to Afghanistan in mobilising international aid to Afghanistan. However, those efforts could be reduced to nought if no conditions were created in Afghanistan for the peaceful development of the country, the return and resettlement of the refugees.

Therefore, Viktor Komplektov stressed, the Soviet Union again urged those who engaged in the armed interference in the affairs of Afghanistan to stop it and embark on the way of negotiations and search for compromises.

Pakistani Spokesman on 'Sabotage' in Plane Crash

LD1610193988 Moscow TASS in English 1929 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] New York October 16 TASS—The plane crash which killed Pakistani President Ziaul Haq on August 17, 1988, was most probably caused by sabotage, a spokesman for the Pakistani Air Force said at a news conference here today.

According to a UPI report, a group of Pakistani and American experts who investigated the circumstances of the crash did not discover any evidence of technical failures that might have caused the crash. The report ruled out the possibility that a missile might have shot down the Hercules C-130 and said the investigators found no evidence of an explosion on board. The report of the panel investigating the crash says that the presence of unusual quantities of carbon monoxide were discovered during the analysis of the plane's debris. Experts regard this as an indirect proof of the fact that the crash might have been caused by an act of sabotage, the spokesman for the Pakistani Air Force reported. U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Arnold Raphel and U.S. Military Atache Brigadier-General Herbert Wassom also died in the crash.

Election Campaign Gears Up in Pakistan

PM1010155988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[Article by Veniamin Shurygin under the rubric "Viewpoint": "On the Eve of Elections"]

[Text] Authoritarian military regimes have ruled Pakistan for more than 25 of its 40 years of independent development. The last—General Ziaul Haq's regime, which came to power in 1977—was particularly brutal. The sudden death of this experienced and wily politician in an air crash has compelled us to take a new look at the parliamentary elections scheduled for 16 November this year. Many observers believe that the Pakistanis now have a real chance of finally escaping from military rule.

The Pakistani Supreme Court recently resolved to allow all political parties to take part in the elections, repealing the former president's decree that the elections be held on a nonparty basis. This decision is regarded as the opposition parties' first success in the incipient election struggle, on whose results a great deal depends. The fate of the presidency is in effect also being decided in the upcoming election, and Pakistan's president is vested with broad powers enabling him to determine the nature of the state's domestic and foreign policy. Under the Constitution, 73-year-old acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan can stay in the post for 30 days after a new parliament has been formed. Then the members of both parliamentary chambers and the provinces' legislative assemblies must elect a new head of state. So the current elections in Pakistan are regarded as an exceptionally important event.

What will they be like? Considering the military's dominating role throughout Pakistan's system of state power, political observers are extremely cautious in their statements regarding the possible outcome of the election campaign. Some even doubt the very possibility of the elections being held and do not preclude interference from the military, depending on how the correlation of forces in the election struggle takes shape and in whose favor.

However, I think that elections will be held nonetheless. All the country's political forces, including the military, are interested in them for various reasons. They need these elections in order to have obedient representative organs to serve as a democratic facade to cover up the present authoritarian rule of the military-bureaucratic elite.

Ordinary Pakistanis have different expectations of the elections. Having suffered a great deal under the oppression of a despotic regime, the broad popular masses are

pinning their hopes on the upcoming elections to improve lives, restore democracy, ensure legality and order in the country, as well as to implement an independent foreign policy course. These problems are now becoming the focus of the election struggle.

Relations with neighboring states, particularly Afghanistan, will be one of the most important questions in the upcoming elections. Should Pakistan continue to be a bridgehead for the undeclared war against this country and continue to implement the policy of Washington and its NATO partners in this area of the globe? The experience of the past decade has shown that this course implemented by Islamabad has done the Pakistani people no good. Every indication is that public opinion within the country advocates with increasing determination that Pakistan implement a policy of nonalignment, strictly observe the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan, cease its interference in the country's internal affairs, and establish good-neighborly relations with that country.

The Pakistan People's Party [PPP], headed by Benazir Bhutto, daughter of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, former Pakistani prime minister who was executed in 1979, is reckoned the most influential force among the participants in the upcoming election. Throughout these years the PPP has been at the center of the opposition to the regime and was the vanguard of the Nine-Party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy. In a conversation with Western correspondents, Benazir Bhutto stated that Western-style capitalism is the key to Pakistan's development. If her party comes to power, it will endeavor to attract foreign capital investment and not implement large-scale nationalization. These statements are thought to be designed to reassure the military and their U.S. backers, who have obtained powerful levers for pressure within Pakistan and can influence the course of events.

Nor has M.K. Junejo, leader of the Pakistani Muslim League, abandoned hope for a return to the post of prime minister. The Junejo government, which was set up to be a democratic cover for the power of the military, did not justify the former dictator's hopes. It proved insufficiently obedient, and this May Junejo was ousted from the post of prime minister. After this the party split. A breakaway faction formed, headed by Fidah Mohammad Khan and composed of the former president's most consistent supporters. They include the chief ministers of a number of provinces. At the start of the election campaign, the faction's leaders advocated the continuation of Ziaul Haq's policy.

Thus Pakistan's political parties have begun the election marathon. It is hard to tell who will win and whether the elections will be truly free and democratic. One thing is certain—Pakistanis are pinning their hopes of a better future for their country on the restoration of democracy.

Pakistani Journalist on Elections

PM1210085588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 88 Morning Edition p5

[Interview with Mushahid Hussain, former editor of the Pakistani newspaper THE MUSLIM, by V. Skosyrev under the heading "Pakistan: If the Elections Take Place..."; date, place not given; first two paragrafs are editorial introduction]

[Text] Pakistan has entered a period of turbulent change. Following the death of General Ziaul Haq, civilian President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has consented to hold parliamentary elections on 16 November, with political parties participating.

At the same time, Pakistani territory is still being used as a base for unconcealed military interference in Afghan affairs, and there have been bloody interethnic clashes in the southeast of the country, in Sind Province. We asked Pakistani journalist Mushahid Hussain to comment on the political situation. Just a year ago, Hussain was editor of the liberal newspaper THE MUSLIM, which worked for the abolition of military rule and a political settlement of the Afghan problem. Possibly the most dramatic moment in the professional career of 35-year-old Hussain came when he set up an interview with A.K. Khan, the scientist known as the father of the Pakistani atom bomb. The interview on this forbidden topic aroused the wrath of the generals and Hussain had to give up his position as editor. However, he is still an influential observer and his column is published every week in several newspapers in Pakistan and other countries.

[Skosyrev] What could be the outcome of the forthcoming elections, and is there any certainty that they will be held at all, given present conditions?

[Hussain] Let us take the first scenario: fair elections being held without any rigging of votes. The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and its leader, Benazir Bhutto, would be the most successful in this case. It would not gain an absolute majority but would secure more seats than other parties in the Assembly, which could lead to the formation of a coalition government.

The other possibility is that the elections will not take place, with the situation so aggravated that the Army decides not to hold elections and once again takes center stage. The riots in Hyderabad and Karachi are a worrying sign.

[Skosyrev] What is causing the clashes?

[Hussain] It is essentially a social conflict. There used to be a definite balance in Sind Province among the different ethnic groups there—the Sindhis, Punjabis, Pushtuns, and people of Indian origin. Now that balance has been upset—a great many Pushtuns have settled in the region and there is not enough work and land for everyone. The violence has assumed threatening forms

as a result of arms flooding into the area from those regions where the Afghan mujahidin are located. We call this phenomenon "Kalashnikov culture." Your famous submachineguns are now being produced in Pakistan and the United States. The Americans manufacture them with the Soviet stamp on them, send them to the mujahidin, and from there the weapons enter the Pakistani market.

[Skosyrev] Bhutto has said that the riots are the handiwork of the authorities, which want to wreck the elections.

[Hussain] Yes, many politicians are talking about this. But there is also a government version, according to which the riots are being organized from outside the country and are linked with our neighbor on the subcontinent. Neither version has been backed up with any proof.

[Skosyrev] Can we expect to see any changes in Islamabad's foreign policy if a government led by Bhutto is formed as a result of the elections?

[Hussain] I am critical of her policies. She is too pro-American. Because of our dependence on the United States, some of our leaders believe that the road to Islamabad lies through Washington. Under Bhutto, our policy with regard to Afghanistan would not change. There is one nuance, of course. It would be an elected government and consequently more subject to pressure from public opinion—and public opinion wants to see an end to the war in Afghanistan. After all, it is obvious that the war is destabilizing our country, weakening our security (we are forced to have two fronts—on the Afghan border and on the Indian border), and increasing our dependence on the United States. But it is not easy to make any changes in policy because they are opposed by a powerful force in the shape of the Army and the bureaucracy.

[Skosyrev] What groups will be competing in the elections?

[Hussain] The usual European criteria—the division of parties into left wing and right wing—are not suitable in our case. Three alliances could form in the course of the campaign: first, the politicians in favor of continuing the line taken by Ziaul Haq; second, supporters of Prime Minister Z.A. Bhutto, executed in 1979. Both these alliances are looking to the past. The third alliance certainly does not exist at present, but it could become a force rejecting the legacies of Zia and Bhutto alike.

I would describe the former premier, M. Junejo, as the most interesting figure in this third category. Initially, people regarded him as a pale shadow of Ziaul Haq, but he began to play an increasingly independent role—for which he was replaced. I believe that if Junejo were to come to power, the chances of a political solution in Afghanistan would improve. After all, it was his government that signed the Geneva agreements and, within the country, has tried to keep the military in the barracks. Junejo would like to restore what he had achieved—particularly in the sphere of relations with the Soviet Union and settlement of the Afghan conflict.

The distribution of forces could change if the results of the investigation into the cause of the president's death are published. But I doubt that it will be established. It would not be in anyone's interests. Judge for yourself: If a foreign power were accused, relations with that power would become difficult; if Shi'ite Muslims, dissatisfied with the president, were to be named as conspirators, you would run the risk of religious discord flaring up; if you were to point the finger at someone in the military, the risk would be no less, security would be undermined....

[Skosyrev] As I understand you, educated Pakistanis are rather skeptical about the possibility of changes for the better.

[Hussain] Doubt and hope go hand in hand. The country has an opportunity to embark on a democratic path by holding elections. But will the Army be able to reconcile itself to power being in the hands of politicians?

'Normalization' Process Begins in Algeria

President Chadli's Moves

PM1710110388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 1

[Own correspondent A. Portanskiy dispatch: "Algeria: Referendum Scheduled"]

[Text] Algiers—Following the unrest and disturbances which occurred in many cities of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria during the 1st 10 days of October and the subsequent normalization of the situation as a result of the address to the nation by the country's President Chadli Bendjedid, a forthcoming national referendum, scheduled for 3 November, was announced in the Algerian capital Wednesday [12 October].

It will center on the reorganization of executive power, which will require appropriate amendments to the constitution.

According to the draft put forward by the head of state, it will be the president's duty to appoint a prime minister bearing full responsibility to the People's National Assembly. In his turn, the prime minister will appoint ministers whose names, together with a program drawn up by the government, will be submitted to the president and the People's National Assembly. The government will thus become fully accountable to the country's parliament. The president will retain the leadership of national defense and foreign policy.

Chadli Bendjedid also made a decision to submit a plan for political reforms envisaging broad transformations of the political system in the spirit of democratization for examination by the Sixth Regular Congress of the National Liberation Front, due to be held shortly. It was decided that, following discussion of the documents in question by the congress, the people will be consulted again via a referendum on the question of making amendments to the National Charter, the fundamental document of the Algerian revolution, and to the constitution in connection with the political reforms to be implemented.

The planned steps are perceived here as a specific materialization of the present Algerian leadership's promises to implement political transformations in society, the pressing need for which became especially obvious as a result of the recent exacerbation of the situation in the country which, in the president's words, almost found itself on the brink of civil war.

Dialogue Seeks To End Unrest

PM1410143188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 5

[V. Neznamov report: "Algeria: From Emergency Measures to Dialogue"]

[Text] It is difficult to get used to the idea that a country where you were lucky enough to have an interesting job for many years is now attracting attention due to tragic events there. The reasons for the present sharp exacerbation of the political situation in Algeria were given by its president, C. Bendjedid, in an address to the nation on 11 October. Prominence was given to the country's economic difficulties, which have now been aggravated to the limit.

In recent years the state's revenues from oil and gas sales, which constitute 98 percent of its foreign currency earnings, have fallen steadily. According to forecasts, those revenues will amount to around $7 billion in 1989, but $5 billion of that will have to be repaid as interest on the national debt! Algeria has the third largest national debt in Africa. The shortage of resources necessitates frequent adjustments to plans, an intensification of the austerity policy, and the abandonment of much social spending.

To this should be added the problems created by the unfinished nature of the process of economic reforms. The laws determining their content (see IZVESTIYA No 231) have been passed, but the new economic mechanism based on the principles of enterprises' independence is not operating yet.

At the same time inflation is increasing, the population's living standard is falling, and speculators are becoming rich. Furthermore, the food supply problem has been aggravated by the drought which struck Algeria this year.

The economic problems are directly linked to questions of social policy. The country is suffering from "galloping" demographic growth—the population is increasing by 3.2 percent per year. The population explosion has created an employment problem. Back in 1986, as I learned, local planners calculated that 4.5 million new jobs would have to be found before 1990. The rate of job creation, however, is only one-half the necessary annual rate.

Then there is housing. Quite a lot has been done in this sphere, of course. A local joke, however, has it that the rate of construction increase is like the speed of a man walking up a staircase, while the population growth is rising like an elevator. If the present ratio between the growth rate of housing and the population is maintained, by the end of the century Algerian homes will be twice as crowded. Yet even now there are seven people to each apartment in the capital!

That is what worries Algerians today. In addition, there are also a great many other unsolved problems such as the acute shortage of schools, difficulties with the organization of young people's leisure time, and so on.

But the demonstrations on Algerian streets are not only an expression of spontaneous protest by the population. There was an organizing principle present in them which was reflected in the slogans and actions. Muslim extremist circles, supporters of the former president of Algeria, Ben Bella, and declasse elements also exploited the discontent of those between 15 and 25.

It should be said in conclusion that the Algerian president's address to the nation was an objective analysis of the situation. The next step is to make decisions which can satisfy the interests of the different sectors of the population.

What specific decisions will be made? That question will be answered by the next congress of the National Liberation Front after a nationwide discussion. But the authorities' approach to the urgent problems is clear. It is the path of dialogue which immediately evoked a positive response among the population. As the president's address to the nation indicates, it is a question of a desire to resolve democratically all the questions, great and small, which are on the agenda. Such approaches undermine the position of the extremists and inspire hope of a constructive solution to the problems facing the country.

Commentator Views Situation

LD1410094888 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Commentary by Aleksey Zlatorunskiy]

[Text] The Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria has gone through difficult times as waves of antigovernment demonstrations erupted on a broad scale and turned into street riots in the main towns, the fiercest of

these riots taking place in the capital Algiers. As a result, and according to the Algerian leadership, Algeria found itself on the brink of a civil war. However, the exceptional measures taken by the government will make it possible to normalize the situation.

The appeal made by President Chadli Bendjedid to the nation was one of the main factors influencing the situation. The president admitted that economic and social issues were the main cause of the riots and said that projects for economic and political reforms will soon be submitted to the working masses for discussion. Subsequently, the rights of workers will be extended and decisive measures will be taken to improve their economic conditions and solve the most complex social problems.

Following the president's appeal to the nation, demonstrations of support for the ruling regime were staged in the country. There is no doubt that the events in Algeria are indeed a purely internal matter concerning this country. Nevertheless, news of these regrettable events could not leave anybody in the USSR indifferent. This is quite normal because the Soviet Union and Algeria have been bound for many years by solid bonds of friendship and fruitful cooperation. Moreover, there are thousands of Algerian specialists now occupying leading posts in various sectors of the national economy who were educated in Soviet higher educational establishments or were taught by Soviet teachers. Tens of thousands of Soviet specialists also helped Algeria in the wake of independence to lay down the economic foundation for a new society. With their assistance, steel plants were built and are still operating successfully, in addition to dams, gas pinelines, and many other things.

I cannot conceal the fact that news of the regrettable events in Algeria saddened me personally, as I had worked in that beautiful country for many years as a correspondent of Radio Moscow and visited it on more than one occasion as part of various delegations. I find it difficult to imagine that the streets of the capital, Constantine, Annaba, Oran, Mostaganem, Sidi Bel Abbes, Ouargla, and other towns had become the theater of clashes between demonstrators and security forces.

It is common knowledge that Algeria in the past few years has faced several objective difficulties as oil and gas hard currency revenues dropped. The problem of self-sufficiency in food has not been solved either, and the number of people entering the job market has been much higher than the jobs created. Despite all this, the country has been developing in confidence. Suffice it to say that even Western economists considered Algeria's economic situation to be strong and were predicting that this country would become one of the leading developing countries to join the ranks of developed states before the turn of the century. Until now Algeria was perhaps one of the leading developing countries when it came to the construction of houses, primary and secondary schools, and higher educational institutes.

Moreover, Algeria enjoys a good reputation internationally and it is no coincidence that in these difficult times the Algerian leadership receives messages of full support from many Arab countries. Nevertheless, we cannot ignore the fact that many Western media and propaganda organs are clearly trying to exploit events in Algeria to put in question the Algerian people's choice of path to development and to give a political character to these events.

The long history of Soviet-Algerian relations demonstrates that the Soviet Union has always been with the Algerian people. This was the case during the years of the Algerian people's struggle for national freedom and during the years when the foundations of the new free society were being laid—a time when the former colonial state and many Western states tried repeatedly to use economic sanctions against Algeria. This has always been the case, and today we can say with certainty that the Soviet Union stands at Algeria's side.

Sub-Saharan Africa

TASS Analyst on Soviet Policy Toward South Africa

LD1210165688 Moscow TASS in English 1641 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 12 TASS—By TASS political news analyst Sergey Kulik:

The Soviet Union has been living in the conditions of perestroyka and glasnost for the third year now. Those are our internal matters. But strange as it might seem at first glance, perestroyka has somewhat changed our attitudes towards the South African realities as well.

That has in no way affected the two cornerstones on which our policy in Africa has always rested.

The first one is solidarity with and support for the peoples in their struggle for national liberation and, consequently, against racism.

The second one is our invariable aspiration to have friendly relations with all African nations grouped in the Organisation of African Unity.

How to put into life these constants of our African policy in the conditions of perestroyka is another matter. Perestroyka brought forth new political thinking along with the principle of "disarmament for development."

By applying this principle to African conditions, one should not turn a blind eye to the fact that free Africa is compelled to allocate large sums on defence in the face of the threat emanating from South Africa aggressors.

The establishment in the future of a democratic, free South Africa would undoubtedly give an impetus to the development of the entire continent and would alleviate to a certain extent its plight.

But what will happen if the armed conflict in southern Africa is whipped up further, while the dismantling of the regime seems to be possible only through armed struggle?

One should not forget that large quantities of diverse weapons have been accumulated there over the past decade, that South Africa is standing at the doors of the nuclear club.

Under these conditions, the continuation of a military conflict in which there can be no winners in fact amounts to mutual destruction.

Someone who is not well versed in all nuances of new political thinking may ask at this point: "How all that tallies with the struggle against apartheid and racism? What about the peoples's right to liberation war?"

The Soviet press gives answers to these questions.

We ought to remain realists and understand: As long as apartheid exists and 30 million South Africans are denied political rights, it is untimely to speak about the possibility of a comprehensive settlement in southern Africa.

The racist regime cannot be a "good neighbour." But it would be an irreparable mistake to let go the emerging possibilities of stage-by-stage normalisation.

The solution of the Namibian problem currently being tackled at the talks conducted by Angola, Cuba, South Africa and the United States and the untangling of the Angolan-Namibian knot will undoubtedly create more favourable conditions for struggle against apartheid.

By encouraging the process of political settlement in the South African subcontinent, the Soviet Union does not "turn away" from the developing countries, as some claim.

On the contrary, the USSR puts its entire prestige of the great power on the scale of small nations by contining all-round assistance to them and providing support for their legitimate demands.

Kulik Notes Improvements in Africa Situation
LD0910192588 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 9 TASS—TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes:

Those who closely follow the developments on the African Continent believe that the light has appeared at last in the "Namibian tunnel" which quite recently seemed so long and even endless. Now a date is given when resolution 435 of the U.N. Security Council on the granting of independence to Namibia will start to be implemented. It is November 1, 1988. At the same time, prospects of the settlement of the situation around Angola have emerged. This brought about another date: Cuban troops will be withdrawn from Angola in 24 months. Observers are analyzing the coming meeting of representatives of Angola, Zambia, Zaire, the Congo and Gabon in the setting of the working out of a final formula of normalization in the south-west of Africa.

The impression is that the intensive quest for ways to settle regional conflicts in that part of the continent is a manifestation of an overall political process which is gaining momentum in Africa. In the opposite end of the continent talks are held more and more often between the two countries which took part in the exhausting conflict in the African Horn. Ethiopia and Somalia are exchanging prisoners of war.

Prospects of ceasefire in Western Sahara and the holding of a referendum there under the U.N. aegis appeared in the north-west of Africa. During the referendum 200,000 residents of that desert country will be given an opportunity to opt for independence or to recognize the authority of the Rabat government. This will put an end to one of the oldest regional conflicts darkening a political horizon in northern Africa.

That area witnessed recently an upsurge of political activity. Algeria and Morocco, as well as Libya and Tunisia, restored diplomatic relations. Tension in the Magreb region that grew from one year to the next is dispelling. Economic cooperation is rapidly gaining momentum. There even appeared the phrase "the Magreb phenomenon". It is spoken about in the Arab world as an example of how one can and should restore good neighbourly relations.

One of the principal causes permitting a number of countries to find the shortest way to the improvement of relations is a new, more healthy political atmosphere that began to form in international relations in general under the impact of the Soviet-American dialogue. The transfer from confrontation to cooperation, from the whipping up of military danger to the quest for agreements on lessening it could not remain unnoticed in Africa. The grains of a new political thinking seem to have fallen on well-cultivated soil.

This is especially true of the relations between Libya and Chad. It was announced on October 3 that the two countries were restoring diplomatic relations on the top level. Now that cannons do not fire any longer and warplanes returned to their airfield many things are seen in a different light. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Libyan leader, admittted in an interview with Algerian television that the participation of Jamahiriyah in the war against Chad was a mistake "that is to be corrected", while one of the leaders of Chad which relied during the war on the military assistance of the U.S. and France and permitted them to create their military bases there said today, in conditions of peace: "Our country is not a natural ally of those states".

This was stated by Adoum Moussa Seif, minister of information and civic orientation of Chad, deputy commissar of external relations of the National Union for Independence and Revolution. He said in a TASS interview:

"Positive changes are taking shape in the world. After several decades of confrontation the U.S. and the USSR started a process of the reassessment of values. And really, it is better to establish a new political thinking, a concept of accord, and to silence cannons. A new era is opening up in international relations which permits to analyze and resolve problems in the interests of developing countries. Africans will make an unforgivable mistake if they do not take advantage of the emerging climate of accord and mutual understanding".

Petrovskiy Meets With Ethiopian Delegate at UN

LD1410052788 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1444 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] New York, 13 Oct (TASS)—On 12 October V.F. Petrovskiy, deputy head of the USSR delegation at the 43d session of the UN General Assembly, had talks here with Berhanu Bayih, member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee Politburo and Ethiopian foreign minister, who described efforts to implement the accords on normalizing relations between Ethiopia and Somalia and on progress in the Ethiopia-Sudan dialogue.

In this connection, the Soviet side expressed satisfaction with the positive development of the situation in the Horn of Africa. The two sides also discussed a broad range of topics relating to the work of the current session of the UN General Assembly.

Construction Agreement Signed With Angola

LD0810091288 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The Soviet Union will build in Angola a residential complex for 500 families and a dyke in the Huila Province and a hospital in the Malanje Province. The corresponding agreement was signed in Luanda during a visit by the Soviet minister of construction in the southern areas of the USSR, Arkadiy Shchepetilnikov. The issue of building an engineering and agricultural school was also negotiated.

East Europe

LCY Central Committee Presidium Opens 17 Oct

LD1810010788 Moscow TASS in English 2346 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Belgrade October 18 TASS—The 17th plenum of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia opened here Monday. It discusses topical tasks of the party for the overcoming of an unfavourable economic, political and social situation in the country. President of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Stipe Suvar delivered the main report.

"The situation in Yugoslavia, in the League of Communists, causes concern of all citizens of the country now", he said. "The League of Communists, above all its steering bodies at every level, have not been equal to the task of a consistent implementation of the decisions of the 8th congress and the recent conference of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia which has set the course at the making of urgent reforms. The plenum should establish correctly the causes of an overall social crisis. We should lay bare everything in the structure of the productive forces, in the area of class relations that impedes the reforms, and indicate what forces oppose them. The Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia should answer three cardinal questions: Why have we landed in this situation? What is the platform for the renewal and further development of socialism in Yugoslavia? What should be done without delay toward the making of reforms in the economy, the political system and the party?"

"Reforms in the three areas—the economy, the political system and the party—comprise a comprehensive reform by means of which Yugoslav socialism will start to overcome the crisis in society. We should get rid of ideological and theoretical dogmata, discard erroneous decisions, all kinds of bureaucratism and technocracy, outdated structure of industry and, especially, national egoism. We have already attempted earlier isolated reforms in the economy, the political system and the party, but what is needed now are reforms in all the three areas simultaneously, that is, actually, a coordinated reform of our socialism, and we should embark on it without delay."

"Entire Yugoslavia is concerned over the situation in the Kosovo Autonomous Province, over the onslaught of local Albanian nationalists and separatists, manifestations of nationalism among other peoples", the speaker went on. "The settlement of the Kosovo problem is at present the most important condition for cooling political passions in the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. It is clear now that just as stabilization in Yugoslavia is impossible without the settlement of the situation in Kosovo, so genuine stabilisation of the situation in Kosovo cannot be achieved without stability all over Yugoslavia", Stipe suvar said. "The responsibility of Communists and leadership in Kosovo must be determined in a concrete way. Those guilty should go. What has not been done over the past three years should be done now, within a short period of time".

The debate on the main report was started. The plenum of the Central Committee of the League of Comunists of Yugoslavia also considers a proposal for the setting up of a commission of the Central Committee for the transformation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and

the question of renewing the composition of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, its presidium and commissions.

New Polish Government Convenes 17 Oct

Rakowski Urges Solving Crisis

LD1710233288 Moscow TASS in English 2318 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Warsaw October 18 TASS—"We must remember that there exists a real opportunity to overcome the crisis in the country", chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic Mieczyslaw Rakowski said at the first meeting of the new government on Monday.

"It is not the reform but the lack of consistency in its implementation that has led to negative consequences in the economy", the head of the Polish Government said. "It is only marked improvement of the living conditions that can create prerequisites for overcoming the attitudes of hopelessness in society. The ways to achieve this aim will be set out in a plan for the consolidation of national economy in 1989-1990".

"We cannot tolerate weak enterprises for the sole reason of fearing temporary appearance of the redundancy of manpower in the labour market. While not saying that unemployment is inevitable, we must do everything to remove redundancies in production and in the management."

The new government will be convened not more often than once a fortnight and each meeting will last no longer than three hours. Ministers are given greater independence, but they will have greater responsibility. Two committees—an economic and socio-political—are set up to upgrade the government's work.

First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, President of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic Wojciech Jaruzelski and Marshal of the Sejm of the Polish People's Republic Roman Malinowski were present at the meeting.

More on Rakowski Policy Statement

PM1410113588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Oct 88 Second Edition p 7

[TASS report: "Polish Sejm Session"]

[Text] Warsaw, 13 Oct—A 2-day session of the Polish Sejm opened here today. The main question on the agenda is the formation of a new government and the discussion of the program for its activity. W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council, and other Polish leaders are taking part in the work.

M. Rakowski, chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers, made a program statement.

M. Rakowski pointed out that the new government will continue the previous foreign policy course. The Council of Ministers' immediate task is to strengthen socialist Poland's international positions and provide it with the political and economic contacts that will make it easy to overcome the difficulties and speed up the implementation of the socioeconoic reforms. The close ties with the Soviet Union are and will remain the foundation of Poland's foreign policy. We will wage an uncompromising struggle against anyone who tries to undermine or weaken this alliance, the head of the government stated. He noted that the political and economic reforms in Poland have much in common with Soviet restructuring.

Reforms Approved; Session Ends

LD1510184688 Moscow TASS in English 2246 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Warsaw October 15 TASS—A two-day meeting of the Sejm of the Polish People's Republic ended here Friday.

The deputies of the supreme legislative body of the country have endorsed the programme of the government's activity and proposals on its composition presented by chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic Mieczyslaw Rakowski on Thursday.

The resolution adopted expresses the conviction that the planned decisive course for the continuation of radical reforms and socialist renewal on a basis of broad national concord will ensure a growing support of society for the activity of the new government.

The parliament appointed Kazimierz Olesiak, Janusz Patorski, Ireneusz Sekula, as deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic. Minister of National Defence, General of the Army Florian Siwicki, Minister of Internal Affairs, General Czeslaw Kisz Czak, Minister of Foreign Affairs Tadeusz Olechowski have kept their posts. Mieczyslaw Wilczek was appointed minister of industry, Dominik Jastszembski, minister of foreign economic cooperation.

First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party, President of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic Wojciech Jaruzelski, other Polish leaders, took part in the work of the Sejm.

Jaruzelski Receives U.S.' Whitehead

LD1410210788 Moscow TASS in English 1547 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Warsaw October 14 TASS—President of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic Wojciech Jaruzelski received here on Thursday U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead who was staying on a visit in Poland.

The state of relations between Poland and the United States was appraised during the conversation. Measures aimed at their further improvement were discussed. There was also an exchange of opinions on key problems of the international situation. Satisfaction was expressed over positive tendencies that manifested themselves in the recent years, above all in East-West relations.

Wojciech Jaruzelski confirmed the will of the Polish side for the development of good mutually advantageous relations with the United States. He stressed the importance of their being based on mutual respect and a stable political and economic basis.

John Whitehead told the Polish leader about the United States striving for successful development of bilateral relations. He emphasized that the historic significance of processes taking place in Poland is noted in the United States. The USA will promote measures of the Polish leadership aimed at overcoming the existing difficulties.

PZPR's Orzechowski Sees Medvedev in USSR

PM1710132788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Exchanging Experience"]

[Text] M. Orzechowski, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, was in the Soviet Union 12-16 October on a working visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee to familiarize himself with the experience of CPSU ideological activity and party leadership of the science and education sphere.

V.A. Medvedev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had a conversation with M. Orzechowski.

M. Orzechowski had meetings at the Academy of Social Sciences at the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Academy of Sciences Presidium, the Moscow M.V. Lomonosov State University, the editorial offices of the journal KOMMUNIST, the USSR Academy of Sciences Siberian Department's Akademgorodok, and other scientific and educational establishments in Novosibirsk.

Observers View Hungarian Military Exercise

LD1710225088 Moscow TASS in English 2224 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Budapest October 18 TASS—Foreign military observers are attending a joint exercise of the south group of troops and the Hungarian People's Army, MTI news agency reported.

In accordance with the document of the Stockholm conference, the exercise, involving 17,000 troops, is being watched by representatives of Austria, Bulgaria, Britain, the German Democratic Republic, Spain, Italy, Canada, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, the United States, West Germany, Finland, France, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Sweden and Yugoslavia, two from each country.

This is the first time observers are attending a military exercise in Hungarian territory since the Stockholm document was signed.

On Monday, the observers were received by Major General Lazslo Fazekacz, deputy chief of the general staff of the Hungarian People's Army.

After the meeting, the officers of the 18 countries left for the exercise site.

West Europe

Further on Visit by Italian Premier De Mita

De Mita Honors War Dead

PM1710124588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Wreath-Laying Ceremony"]

[Text] C. De Mita, prime minister of the Italian Republic, who is on an official visit to the USSR, laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on the morning of 14 October. He observed a minute's silence in honor of the memory of the Soviet servicemen who gave their lives in the struggle against Hitlerite fascism.

Italy's prime minister toured the sights of the Kremlin.

The visitor was accompanied by V.M. Kamentsev and other officials.

De Mita Assesses Moscow Talks

LD1510154288 Moscow TASS in English 1443 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—"The talks in Moscow were held in the spirit of realism and in a very non-traditional way: In the form of discussions on specific issues," Ciriaco de Mita, chairman of Italy's Council of Ministers, said at a news conference here today. He is currently in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

"A number of agreements have been concluded, specifically those concerning the opening of a credit line and joint capital investments," said the head of the Italian Government. "The very contents of the talks suggest the idea that this is only a beginning as compared with prospects for the future which are opening up. This is being promoted in many respects by transformations taking place in the Soviet Union."

"Soviet-Italian relations," Ciriaco de Mita went on to say, "should be viewed within the context of overall East-West relations. They can develop successfully only provided the processes of disarmament and relaxation of tension go on, and funds which are now spent on armament are used for peaceful purposes. This is why even when we spoke of specific aspects of cooperation between Italy and the Soviet Union, international relations in their aggregate were invisibly present at our talks. Although the talks themselves were held in a productive and very interesting way, we also encountered certain problems."

"The Soviet side," the chairman of Italy's Council of Ministers said, "also expressed an understanding of the objectively existing difficulties and of the need for concrete acts to strengthen the climate of trust."

"Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky of Austria visited Moscow prior to my visit here. Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl of the Federal Republic of Germany and President Francois Mitterrand of France are also expected to arrive here. I think," Ciriaco de Mita emphasized, "that Western Europe is interested in promoting the economic development of the Soviet Union and other East European countries on a mutually beneficial basis. But, I repeat, this will become possible only under conditions of cuts in armaments and a continuation of the process of relaxation of tension."

Gorbachev, De Mita at Bolshoy

LD1510162788 Moscow TASS in English 1609 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—Ciriaco de Mita, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Republic, and his wife attended a concert of La Scala soloists at the Bolshoy Theatre of the USSR tonight.

Together with them in the central box were Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and his wife, and other officials.

The auditorium was decked out with the state flags of the Italian Republic and the Soviet Union. Prior to the concert, the orchestra played the national anthems of the two countries.

De Mita Interviewed

LD1610000488 Moscow International Service in Italian 2000 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Mr Prime Minister, this visit to the Soviet Union is your first visit as premier to a socialist country. Are you satisfied with the results of this visit? Our correspondent, Aleksandr Petro, asked Italian Premier Ciriaco de Mita this question today.

[Begin recording] [De Mita] More than satisfied. I would say that I found great interest. The talks were very frank, very free, not bound by preconceived ideas, while remaining aware of the difficulties and that there are difficulties to be overcome [words indistinct]. There is no hurry and there is no resignation. Given the extraordinary importance which I saw today [words indistinct] to single out how a public capital company ought to act in the market economy [words indistinct].

[Petrov] Premier, how was your meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev?

[De Mita] Very interesting. So interesting, in fact, that we started yesterday morning and still have not finished. Evidently on both sides [words indistinct] to talk, to deal with matters in depth and probably even to hypothesize about solutions. What I think I can say is that I confirmed the impression I had of meeting a person of extraordinary importance in which desires, experiences, cultures, and institutions are joined together politically, organized in a gradual but secure process. I think this constitutes the innovation of our age.

[Petrov] You had already been to the Soviet Union twice before.

[De Mita] I have been in the Soviet Union but I had never found it possible to have this kind of talks. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Ryzhkov, De Mita at Exhibition

PM1710122588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Oct 88 Second Edition pp 1, 4

[TASS report: "'Italy 2000' Issues Invitation"]

[Text] There is a riot of color beneath the vaults of the exhibition complex on Krasnaya Presnya. The vast pavilions are full of people and Italian can be heard everywhere mingling with Russian. It is as though sunny and emotional Italy itself, with its lively character and unique color, had stepped onto Moscow soil.

The "Italy 2000" exhibition—the largest exhibition Italy is mounting abroad this year—widely represents the country's achievements in the sphere of industry and agriculture, science, culture, the services sphere, and tourism. The numerous exhibits show the republic's achievements and make it possible to look into future—to see what Italy will be like on the threshold of the third millenium.

Taking part in the exhibition opening ceremony 15 October were C. De Mita, chairman of the Italian Council of Ministers, and his wife; M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and his wife; and N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and his wife.

Comrades V.P. Nikonov, N.N. Slyunkov, A.N. Yakovlev, A.N. Biryukova, Yu. D. Maslyukov, and other officials took part in the ceremony.

On the Italian side were officials accompanying the Italian head of government.

C. De Mita came to the microphone.

C. De Mita's Speech [subhead]

Our visit to Moscow and the "Italy 2000" exhibition which we are opening clearly show the importance which the Italian Government and people attache to the consolidation of economic relations with the Soviet Union.

This exhibition reflects the technological level of our industry and points to the opportunities and mutual advantage opening up before our countries with the encouragement of exchanges and the creation of joint Italian-Soviet enterprises. The interdependence of growth is a process which will inevitably encompass various zones of the world. The swifter and more resolute their participation in international trade, the more intensive this process will be.

We treat favorably and with interest the Soviet Union's desire to join GATT and its wish to promote broader international economic integration. After all, the expansion of trade exchanges promotes stability and accelerates world development.

The Italian economy is one of the most open in the world. Our exports comprise about 6 percent of the total volume of world trade in industrial goods, which is in excess of the proportion of our economic potential.

The level of international integration which we have achieved is the result of fundamental political decisions aimed at the liberalization of trade and also of the businessmen's level of entrepreneurial activity. The orientation toward the foreign market has decisively influenced Italy's transformation into one of the most industrially developed countries with a high standard of social development.

Throughout the world Italy is associated with fashion and industrial design. But there is also an advanced industry, investments, consumer durables, and a large stock of imagination and projects.

In 1988 Italian industry confirmed its leading position in Europe among the industrially developed countries. According to the latest figures, the volume of the gross domestic product increased 3.6 percent in real terms. In terms of its absolute volume it is considerably in excess of 1 million billion lire, that is, about $800 billion at the average annual exchange rate.

The state of the Italian economy is favorably affected by the development of the world economy and the growth of international trade, which has returned to its former high levels. The increase in the demand on foreign markets is accompanied by the growth of demand within the country in the field of investments and consumption. The positive development of exports, whose growth was 6 percent in real terms, has made it possible to balance imports (plus 8 percent) of raw and semifinished materials without substantially disrupting the basic items of the balance of payments. At the same time faith in the potential of our economy has generated a considerable influx of capital from abroad.

The figures confirm that in the Italian economy the increase in fixed capital is proceeding rapidly. Since 1984 investments in machinery, equipment, and transport facilities have increased 8 percent. The surge in this field reflects the process of enterprises' modernization and rationalization. Yet considering the increased degree of use of equipment, expenditure on investments includes substantial sums designed for the renewal of this equipment. This conclusion is assessed very positively.

These figures, together with the increased flexibility of production, guarantee for Italy the ability to resist upheavals on the international market and to satisfy the growing demand from other countries.

The increase in production is also having an effect on prosperity within families thanks to the growth of the incomes at their disposal and consequently on the growth of consumption, which increased 4 percent in real terms in 1988 and which is geared primarily to the demand for consumer durables.

If we turn to the language of figures, the Soviet Union ranks an honorable tenth in terms of the volume of Italian goods imported and also ranks ninth among the countries supplying output to Italy.

But we see additional opportunities for increasing the level of economic integration between our countries both through expanding exchanges and with the aid of creating new joint enterprises.

The "Italy 2000" exhibition reflects the transformation of the Italian economy, which has developed on the basis of its entrepreneurial abilities, on the basis of the processing of raw and semifinished materials, and on the ability to sell and to trade. Today our industry offers a whole range of output in the field of scientific research, developed technology, and design, which can promote the development of new forms of cooperation and exchange.

From Moscow we can show the future of the firmest economic relations with the West, put content into the great potential for the development of markets, and create a structural system for relations including culture, research, and the economy.

New prospects are opening up for cooperation with the USSR leadership, which is making great efforts to transform the Soviet economy. We will give support to our businessmen seeking to increase the scale and improve the quality of exchanges and who are anxious to make their contribution to the growth of our peoples' prosperity.

The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe has set the general criteria and the context which should make possible the growth of mutual dependence.

Today the field of economic cooperation between East and West could use the successful methods already tested by the industrially developed countries of the West on both sides of the Atlantic. The West and East European countries and the Soviet Union should create a consistent and trustworthy plan for future, growing economic cooperation between West and East.

There is an urgent need to develop big multinational projects which would make full use of the socialist countries' existing energy potential and would make possible real cooperation between the socialist countries and the European Community and the unified internal market which we will have after 1992.

These are tight potential deadlines.

We already feel that we should begin to work in this direction.

N.I. Ryzhkov then spoke.

N.I. Ryzhkov's Speech [subhead]

I think it may be said that today is Italy Day in Moscow. The newspapers are publishing reports on the Soviet-Italian talks which took place in the Kremlin yesterday and the friendly speeches exchanged by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Ciriaco De Mita. Soloists of the renowned La Scala perform at the Bolshoy Theater this evening. These events—each individually and taken together—are a good sign in the development of Soviet-Italian relations. The new political thinking, our restructuring, and its international welcome, the real changes for the better in the world situation—that is the background against which the process of the consolidation of collaboration and mutual trust between our countries is taking place. In turn Soviet-Italian relations are an important factor in the normalization of the international climate.

We assess properly the fact that Italy is mounting such a representative exhibition in our country and that its opening is attended by the chairman of the Council of Ministers, ministers of the Italian Government, and eminent representatives of business circles.

We see in this a manifestation of Italy's attention and interest in broad cooperation with the Soviet Union, not only in the economic field but also in other spheres of our bilateral relations. Of course, this is borne out primarily by the actual visit of the head of the Italian Government to the Soviet Union and the Soviet-Italian talks taking place in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and goodwill. The close interweaving of political contacts at various levels and of cultural and other humanitarian ties with active collaboration in the trade and economic, scientific and technical, ecological, and other spheres of cooperation is in fact creating the dense fabric of bilateral relations which is becoming a firm basis for peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems.

Naturally, the importance of exhibitions does not come down only to the business aspect. Under the conditions of the internationalization of public life they acquire increasing importance as a means for the peoples' rapprochement, for their mutual acquaintance with each other's experience, achievements, and material and spiritual values.

We have not yet embarked on a viewing of this exhibition, but we already know that in terms of its content it is unprecedented in the history of our relations. We express thanks for this to its planners and organizers and to all the specialists and workers whose labor and skill created this remarkable exhibition. Of course, no exhibition can include even in miniature all the actual reality and living face of a country, especially a country like Italy. But it can show what is of important practical significance for the intensification of our cooperation and it can arouse and intensify people's interest in the use of the opportunities opened up by this cooperation for the purposes of progress and peace.

This exhibition will undoubtedly attract the attention of Soviet people, who will be able to come here and familiarize themselves with the Italian people's achievements in various sectors of the national economy and scientific and cultural life.

In conclusion I want to say that we sincerely rejoice in this meeting with life-loving, spirited, and industrious Italy. On behalf of the Soviet Government I wish the "Italy 2000" exhibition complete success.

The two countries' national anthems were played. The exhibition was opened and the viewing began.

The first stop was at the stand of the "Main Group" firm, which was one of the first in Italy to create a joint enterprise with Soviet partners for the production of

footwear components. Right now, the deputy commercial director P. Preles reported, the joint enterprise, which has been called "Tirpa" (from the names of the Moldavian city of Tiraspol and the city of Padua in Italy, where the founders' headquarters are situated) has already embarked on the production of output.

M.S. Gorbachev and C. De Mita stopped at the vast stand of the "Fiat" concern, at which a new passenger car model, a promising automobile engine model, and computerized graph plotters were on display. M.S. Gorbachev talked with Fiat president G. Agnelli.

The Soviet leader and I tried to find the reasons for a certain decline in Fiat's commercial and scientific and technical activity on the Soviet market, G. Agnelli told a TASS correspondent after this talk. You form the impression that our cooperation is either in the past or the future, but not in the present. In my view there have been several reasons: There are difficulties which Italian firms have experienced in financing bilateral projects, restrictions on the transfer of advanced technology to socialist countries, and the activeness of our competitors. But I agree with M.S. Gorbachev that East and West can and must substantially expand the volumes of business cooperation. I am sure that Fiat will be among the first. As for specific projects for cooperation, we intend to discuss them during talks with the Soviet leaders.

Next to the exhibits of the Merloni firm representing Italy's technology and industry, M.S. Gorbachev talked with the president of one of the firm's groups, F. Merloni. For several years now this firm has been implementing technical cooperation with the Soviet Union and supplies a range of articles and components for Soviet enterprises. With the firm's assistance 12 plants for the production of domestic electrical appliances and electric motors have been commissioned in our country.

At present about 1,000 Italian enterprises have permanent economic ties with the USSR. In his message to mark the opening ceremony of the exhibition, Italian Foreign Trade Minister R. Ruggiero writes: "It is far from fortuitous that this exhibition, which documents the past and is a unique laboratory of ideas for the future, has been mounted in Moscow. Looking into the year 2000, considering the increasingly decisive weight which the new technology will have in determining the future system in the world, truly means imagining even now the potential results of closer industrial and technological cooperation between East and West. In other words, thinking more specifically about the implementation of a common European home from the Atlantic to the Urals about which M.S. Gorbachev writes in his book 'Restructuring.'"

The Moscow footwear factory constructed by the Italian "Cogolo" firm is an example of close economic cooperation between the USSR and Italy.

"The firm has to its credit the construction of a number of large-scale establishments in the USSR," G. Cogolo said. "We hope that this is only a beginning. In recent months we have signed with the USSR Ministry of Light Industry a number of protocols providing for a marked expansion of cooperation. It is a case of modernizing existing enterprises of the leather footwear industry and constructing new factories on 'turnkey readiness' terms."

"We are studying with our Soviet partners the possibility of creating in the USSR a center for designing and planning new footwear models in the form of a joint enterprise," G. Cogolo stressed. "I am sure that the implementation of these plans would bring cooperation with the USSR to a qualitatively new level."

Eminent representatives of Italian business circles and directors and presidents of 260 state-owned and private firms like ENI, IRI, Fiat, Fata, Danieli, Olivetti, Montedison, and others have come to take part in the exhibition. A delegation of Italian scientists is represented.

Offering exhaustive information about Italy's present industrial level, the exhibition really reflects the interconnection between science and leading technology and daily life and gives specialists an opportunity to exchange economic and technical experience.

Ryzhkov Meets Businessmen

PM1710135188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In a Spirit of Businesslike Discussion"]

[Text] On 14 October N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, met with a group of representatives from the Italian business world who have arrived in the USSR in connection with the opening in Moscow of the major Italian industrial exhibition "Italy 2000."

Taking part in the talk were the leaders of well-known Italian state and private companies and firms—the National Hydrocarbons Agency, the Industrial Reconstruction Institute, Montedison, Fata, the Italian General Confederation of Industries, the National Nuclear Energy and Alternative Energy Research and Development Council, Cogolo Tannery, and others—and directors of state, trade, industrial, and financial organizations maintaining business links with Soviet ministries, departments, and foreign trade associations.

During a detailed exchange of opinions various aspects of Soviet-Italian trade, economic, scientific, and technical cooperation were examined. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the results achieved and the readiness to further expand mutually advantageous trade and economic ties.

Assessing the prospects for Soviet-Italian cooperation, N.I. Ryzhkov noted that the restructuring and profound transformations under way in the Soviet economy are creating favorable conditions for the comprehensive development and deepening of business relations between Soviet organizations and Italian companies and firms, and for active work to create joint enterprises and organize industrial cooperation—on the basis of Soviet scientific, technical, and experimental design developments as well. He drew the attention of the Italian participants in the meeting to the potential for using new forms of cooperation to expand trade between the two countries. It was also stressed that a broad scope for the participation of Italian firms in the modernization of the light and food industries, and in the creation of agro-industrial complex enterprises in the USSR, is opening up in connection with the major social programs adopted in the Soviet Union.

Italian businessmen shared their impressions of their contacts with representatives of Soviet organizations, enterprises, and associations, and talked frankly about problems of concern to them. They noted the great importance of the "Italy 2000" exhibition, opening in Moscow 15 October, for deepening Soviet-Italian business ties. This exhibition is intended to provide a graphic picture of the Italian economy and its achievements. The exhibition will not only familiarize Soviet visitors with the extensive potential of the Italian market, but will also be used to initiate new business contacts with Soviet organizations, enterprises, and associations, and will allow Italians to get a better idea of the features of working in the USSR.

A number of specific projects whose implementation would make it possible to raise Soviet-Italian business cooperation to a new, higher level were discussed during the meeting.

Taking part in the talks on the Soviet side were: V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; K.F. Katushev, USSR minister of foreign economic relations; N.V. Lemayev, USSR minister of the petroleum refining and petrochemical industry; V.L. Malkevich, chairman of the USSR Chamber of Trade and Industry Presidium; and Yu.S. Moskovskiy, chairman of the USSR Bank for Foreign Economic Activity Board.

De Mita Departs for Leningrad

LD1610075688 Moscow TASS in English 0738 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 16 TASS—Ciriaco de Mita, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Republic, today left Moscow for Leningrad. He is staying in the USSR on the official visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

A farewell ceremony was held at St. George's Hall of the Grand Kremlin Palace before the departure.

Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and his wife warmly parted with Ciriaco de Mita and his wife.

The streets and squares through which the motorcade escorted by motorcycle outriders sped from the Kremlin to the airport were decked with the state flags of Italy and the USSR.

An hour after the farewell ceremony in the Kremlin Ciriaco de Mita and his wife arrived in the airport.

On the tarmac they were seen off by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, his wife, and other officials.

De Mita Visits Leningrad, Pushkin

LD1610161088 Moscow TASS in English 1555 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] Leningrad October 16 TASS—Chairman of Italy's Council of Ministers Ciriaco de Mita and his wife and officials accompanying them spent a day in Leningrad. A luncheon was given here today in honour of the guest.

Speaking at the luncheon, Ciriaco de Mita emphasized that the talks in Moscow with General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Mikhail Gorbachev, with other Soviet leaders, dealt with the further all-round development of relations between Italy and the USSR. "We wish to deepen cooperation with the Soviet Union, to bring it to a level much higher than usual economic and commercial exchange," the head of the Italian Government said.

On behalf of the five-millioned population of the city, the Italian leader was greeted by Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Leningrad City Soviet Vladimir Khodyrev. "Mutual interest between Soviet and Italian peoples enables them to get to know each other better, strengthen mutual confidence and friendship and upgrade cooperation," Khodyrev said. "Resolving economic and social tasks stemming from perestroyka, Leningraders strive to develop versatile contacts with other countries, among them Italy, and make concrete achievements. We see prospects for the widening of Soviet-Italian cooperation which, we think, is of mutual benefit," the chairman of the executive committee said.

During the tour of Leningrad, the head of the Italian Government and persons accompanying him paid tribute to the memory of citizens and soldiers who lost their lives in the years of the Great Patriotic War (1941-1945). Flowers were placed at the monument to the defenders of the city in the Victory Square. The guests saw art collections in the Hermitage and made a trip to the city of Pushkin, a former imperial summer residence, and now a museum.

De Mita Meets With Journalists

LD1610225488 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1943 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Interview with Ciriacou de Mita, chairman of the Italian Council of Ministers, speaking in Italian with superimposed Russian translation, by Political Observer Igor Kudrin and Commentator Igor Garanskiy during his visit to Moscow; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Kudrin] Good day, Mr Chairman. We are very pleased to see you in this hall. We also thank you in advance for finding the time during your busy visit to Moscow to meet with correspondents of Soviet television. Thank you very much. And now, if you will permit me, to the first question:

Journalists always want to know rather more than is published in official protocol documents and reports. Could you tell us what were the main topics discussed during your conversations with the Soviet leadership, and how you would assess in general terms the results of your visit to the Soviet Union?

[De Mita] The immediate reason for my visit is the opening of the Italian Exhibition, as well as the signing of a number of agreements with the Soviet Union.

The conversations were very interesting because they were not confined merely to an appraisal of the opportunities which exist at the present time. Our talks were very interesting; we discussed in a spirit of realism the prospects for sour relations not only in the context of bilateral relations but also in the context of the development of the international situation.

[Garanskiy] Mr Chairman, I have a somewhat general question. In your view what should East and West do to finally overcome mistrust and move away from confrontation, and what role can your country—Italy—play in this?

[De Mita] You have put it very well—to create a climate of trust. I think that the new feature which we are faced with is that in previous years—and when I say previous years I mean all the postwar years, from World War II up to the present day—the political balance of power between East and West has been built with the intention of restricting the danger of war. Therefore, these objectives have always been accompanied by a consideration of such danger. Now, the new factor consists of precisely the fact that processes are occurring in the Soviet Union which enable East-West relations to be built on a new foundation, that is to restrict the danger of a war and to create new forms of cooperation for mutual development. I think that all the conditions exist for this.

How can this be accomplished? Not, of course, by just telling one another that there is no need to worry—one needs to have trust; concrete facts and concrete deeds are necessary. And so we have signed here a number of agreements which follow the spirit of the agreements signed earlier. This last agreement on liquidating Euromissiles, this is an important element for creating, for intensifying and deepening, the climate of trust.

I think that the preconditions for the development of cooperation in the cultural sphere between the various countries of Europe will be a factor for future mutual progress, because by proceeding from these accords, it will be possible to advance further the process of detente and cooperation.

[Kudrin] I have this question for you. In the Soviet Union and other socialist countries the question has arisen in connection with the transfer from Spain to Italy of 72 U.S. F-16 fighter-bombers. What do you think: does this not hinder the creation of a favorable climate for the disarmament process in Europe? And, one other thing, what is your opinion in connection with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's counterproposal which he made in Warsaw this July?

[De Mita] I already explained our position on this to Gorbachev. I did not notice any anxiety or any difficulties. Our choice to offer Italian territory to the F-16's, at NATO's request, is nothing new and it does not alter the existing balance of power, not just for the existing balance of power but also for the military balance which exists in Europe. I have never considered a unilateral initiative to be a mistake, either from one side or the other. I believe that the existing balances should be maintained, but not just for their unification; they should be maintained in order to improve the general situation. They should be a basis for improving the general situation. The venue for holding talks on a further reduction in conventional armaments will be determined later. I would like to express the desire, the hope, that the results of the Helsinki conference will be positive.

[Kudrin] It seems that this decision was not met with enthusiasm by everyone in Italy, either.

[De Mita] In Italy the majority of the population took a positive view of this decision, especially as there has been a precedent in our country. We have made decisions on the deployment of missiles in previous years, and we explained that the response to this decision would have the same effect and the same reaction. We were prepared to liquidate the missiles from both sides, as is now happening with the participation of the inspectors from the Soviet Union. This has stood us in good stead because if there had not been a decision in the past then I think there would not have been the present one.

[Garanskiy] You are the leader of one of the biggest Christian Democratic parties in Europe. In your view what role can the various Catholic organizations play in the struggle for peace and disarmament?

[De Mita] In Western democratic societies public opinion plays an immense role in government decisions, and public opinion influences government decisions, and in our country this public opinion is also presented by the Catholic movement, because in Italy we have a very powerful Catholic movement. We also know that foreign policy is not only a desire for peace, it is also a desire to build peace across possible balances of power. In the postwar period, although we joined the NATO military bloc, we have always striven to justify and seek reasons for cooperation and not only for military confrontation [as heard]. But these balances of power cannot be altered by a simple decision, a simple desire, or a simple desire for peace. And public opinion in general realizes this, as does the Catholic public movement. They do not demand unilateral pacifism. Peace is built by political means, it is built on useful foundations only by means of creating new balances on different levels.

[Kudrin] Mr Chairman, if I am not mistaken, there have been 47 governments in Italy in the postwar period. Could you explain to our viewers why there is such a frequent change of government cabinets in your country? Just one more question, a purely personal one: is it hard to be chairman of the Council of Ministers in Italy today?

[De Mita] It would not be difficult to explain to the Soviet people the advantages of a government which is stable, because your experience has shown that it is possible to achieve these successes with stable governments, but in our country, at any rate, the government is changed too frequently, so we have to seek a kind of happy medium. In your country, the government does not change very frequently, but with us it is too frequently.

[Kudrin] Is your mission today a difficult one?

[De Mita] I wouldn't say that it is difficult. I would say it is interesting because we are undergoing an unusual part of the postwar period within the bounds of the international community, and as far as international solidarity is concerned—I have already spoken of this earlier. I have the impression—and I think, I would like to think it is not just an impression—that over the past 40 years we have avoided war, and I think the time has come to build peace. So this is a time for great hopes for all the peoples of Europe and the world.

[Garanskiy] I would like to ask you one more question concerning our Soviet-Italian relations. What do you think, which way do you think Soviet-Italian cooperation should go today in order to fully meet the opportunities of our two states?

[De Mita] This question can be solved not only and not so much in terms of bilateral relations between the USSR and Italy. If this were so, then it would be very simple, much easier than in the past. This problem should be looked at in the context of international relations as a whole. At the present time the new things which are happening are making real progress in our relations more attainable. We were among the first countries in the postwar period to establish not only economic relations but also cultural relations with the Soviet Union. We also pointed out that it is very difficult to change the limits of growth in relations because the economies of our two countries are different.

I am leaving the Soviet Union with great hopes, not only because of the cordial atmosphere at our talks but also because of a number of general considerations. We are all convinced that we can assist—I am speaking not only about us Italians, but also about Western Europe—that is, we will contribute to the creating of preconditions for economic growth, and Western Europe has an interest in this for its own reasons, to assist the Soviet Union in its economic growth. And for its part, the Soviet Union is interested in catching up to the economically developed countries.

[Kudrin] Thank you, Mr Chairman, and all the best.

[De Mita] Thank you.

De Mita Departs for Home

LD1610161188 Moscow TASS in English 1556 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] Leningrad October 16 TASS—Chairman of Italy's Council of Ministers Ciriaco de Mita who was staying on an official visit in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet leadership left the USSR for home today.

Yakovlev Terms Italian Accords 'Excellent'

LD1610180288 Rome Domestic Service in Italian 0700 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Correspondent Empedio Clemazio reports from Moscow]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] While Italian private and public capitalism was being represented at the "Italy 2000" exhibition in the presence of Gorbachev yesterday, I spoke of bilateral relations with Yakovlev, responsible for the Politburo's international affairs, and Gorbachev's ally in the field of foreign policy.

Yakovlev described the agreements signed in Moscow with Italian ministers as excellent. He said that he is very satisfied and believes that we too should be satisfied. I then asked him whether another step had been taken on the path toward the process of peace. This cooperation, Yakovlev said, these trade and cultural relations, and also these exchanges of information can speed up the process of disarmament—even in its most comprehensive aspect, in the sphere of conventional weapons. In short, economics is helping to make policies, I said, and Yakovlev fully agreed. [passage omitted]

Analysis of De Mita Visit Inspires 'Optimism'
LD1710150588 Moscow TASS in English 1428 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—TASS political news analyst Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

The four days of the visit to the Soviet Union by the high Italian delegation flew by. They were quite eventful: political talks, first of all, those at summit level—between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ciriaco de Mita, the signing of Soviet-Italian documents, and substantive talks between the two countries' business people, including those at the "Italy 2000" large-scale exhibition, and an extensive cultural program.

An analysis of the bilateral meetings suggests conclusions which inspire well-grounded optimism.

"In conditions of the new climate which has been established in the world due to the Soviet Union's decisive contribution, many problems and differences of the past, it seems, have melted like snow in the sun," L'UNITA believes. The newspaper's opinion is shared by an overwhelming majority of those who attentively watched the course of the kind of 'Italian days in the USSR'.

Differences remain, the newspaper of the Italian Communists goes on. The two countries belong to different camps but the barricades which separated them for a long time do not seem high any longer and they can be overcome. The days when 'contradiction was felt in everything' have receded into the past.

A substantive talk on further all-round development of relations between the two countries took place in Moscow in an unconstrained and mutually interested atmosphere. The following must be emphasized: The talks centered precisely on all-round development. The days of the visit created favourable conditions for raising the entire range of bilateral relations to a new, higher stage.

At the same time the role of the visit to the Soviet capital by a widely representative group of Italian government figures headed by their leader obviously goes beyond the framework of bilateral relations and acquires all-European importance.

An opinion was rather persistently spread in Western Europe of late that Moscow ostensibly builds its relations with Washington, forgetting about European affairs, Kiara Valentini, a prominent Italian woman journalist, said recently. She was gathering information, in TASS as well, on Soviet foreign policy for the weekly panorama. But does not the fact that the Austrian chancellor and the Italian prime minister have been received in Moscow and that the Soviet-French talks have been held in Paris signify a certain Soviet "Comeback" to Europe? she argued.

It seems to me that we did not leave Europe at all. Really, the CSCE process and participation in it have been and remain a thing close to the Soviet side. We meet with increasing reciprocity and understanding on the part of the West.

"I follow very attentively the reaction abroad to the Soviet-Italian meetings," Francesco Bigazzi, director of the press center of the Italy-2000 exhibition, told me. ""The 'Italian days' in Moscow became a stimulus to the entire West to make headway towards the Soviet Union. Many countries of our continent are ugently beginning to work on preparing exhibitions similar to ours in the Soviet Union. They do this in order to be able to catch the train."

And we shall add: to catch the train which is on its way to the junction—a common European home—which all of us are to build jointly.

Kohl, Genscher Comment on Upcoming Visit
PM1410151588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Report on interview in Bonn with FRG Federal Chancellor H. Kohl and Foreign Minister H.-D. Genscher by special correspondents Ye. Bovkun and S. Guk: "FRG Federal Chancellor H. Kohl and Foreign Minister H.-D. Genscher on Soviet-West German Relations. Business-like Approach Needed"; date not given]

[Text] Bonn—The residence of the federal chancellor in no way differs from the other low buildings in Bonn's government quarter: a standard building of glass and concrete.

The Soviet journalists were invited to go up to the second floor, to the room where working ministerial conferences are usually held. This is where we were to have our conversation with Federal Chancellor H. Kohl on the eve of his visit to the Soviet Union. This was to be followed by a meeting with H.-D. Genscher, FRG vice chancellor and foreign minister, in the FRG Foreign Ministry Reception Hall.

The federal chancellor is convinced that a "new chapter" should be written in Soviet-FRG relations. The FRG "wants to take every opportunity to give relations between the two countries a long-term perspective on the basis of the Moscow treaty." But we have to begin by taking small steps. Results will not be slow in coming, just as young saplings sown close together shoot up rapidly. The foreign minister also spoke of a businesslike approach to the development of cooperation.

What should we understand by small steps? Evidently the package the chancellor will be taking with him will not contain draft agreements earning the epithet "deal of the century." But a program for training economic specialists and improving their qualifications has already been agreed on. There is a chance that a contract

will be signed on the production of medical equipment and the construction of a motor-manufacturing plant. West German firms are interested in the joint extraction of precious metals and are ready to assist the Soviet Union in the modernization of its light industry and the production of consumer goods. However, as yet there is no general economic concept regarding the degree and forms of their involvement in cooperation with the Soviet Union. The one thing the federal chancellor and his ministers were at pains to emphasize is that small and medium enterprises are going to be involved to an increasing extent in economic cooperation with the East. The well known Cocom lists are to be reduced, although to all appearances there is still a long way to go before they are pared down to the bare minimum. The explanation given is that "security interests" are getting in the way of this. But we will not hurry events.

Our interlocutors stressed that the dialogue will encompass various aspects of cooperation—from industrial cooperation to cultural exchange. Mutual trust must be built up across the whole spectrum of relations, H. Kohl believes, including the ecological sphere. Many of our two countries' domestic problems have indeed become common to both. Interesting joint decisions are possible in every one of the aforementioned areas.

The Federal government's intention to broaden the basis of cooperation and strengthen its foundations with real accords is also evidenced by the composition of the delegation. It includes eminent economists, industrialists, bankers, and even Sovietologists.

So, the federal chancellor and his large team of assistants, advisers, and journalists are preparing for their visit to Moscow without falling prey to illusions. This idea sounded like a refrain during our conversations with the chancellor and vice chancellor.

It is also without any illusions that H. Kohl and his representative delegation intend to discuss a very broad, complex range of issues. In addition to the aforementioned aspects of bilateral cooperation, mutual stances on the complex of problems concerning disarmament, security, and confidence-building measures (incidentally, the delegation also includes FRG Defense Minister R. Scholz) will also be discussed and clarified. As is well known, there is as yet no general NATO concept on disarmament (H.-D. Genscher reminded us that it was the FRG which initiated the idea of developing such a concept). It promises to materialize no earlier than the summer of next year. But there are the preliminary outlines: NATO supports a 50-percent cut in Soviet and American strategic offensive weapons, the elimination of chemical weapons throughout the world, and stability in the conventional arms sphere in Europe by eliminating imbalances.

In this context NATO also agrees with the idea of cuts in Soviet and American missiles with a range of up to 500 km. Not their total elimination—just a reduction in their number. The argument (and we quote from the text of the chancellor's answers, authorized for publication) is as follows: NATO, "proceeding from the aims of preventing war, cannot manage without nuclear and conventional armed forces of appropriate number and efficiency and in the proper correlation, the level of which will be adequately maintained where necessary. By virtue of this rejection of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, which would not be in our security interests, it is mainly shorter-range nuclear systems that are moving into the forefront."

Tactical missiles are primarily a threat to the countries of central Europe, including the FRG. H.-D. Genscher had some explanations in this connection: There is not one square meter of territory in the world that could not be reached by strategic missiles. Consequently, the first steps must be to eliminate this class of weapon—first halve their number and then go even further. Whether NATO envisages the near future without any nuclear weapons at all was a question to which we received no positive answer.

It seems as if the whole of the globe is in the sights of a nuclear missile. What is the point of this "double insurance cover"? Especially in view of the fact that fear of the "Soviet threat" is on the wane—this conclusion was drawn recently by the Allensbach institute of public opinion, an authoritative body in the FRG. According to its statistics, at the beginning of the eighties approximately 60 percent of the FRG population did not trust the East, whereas today this indicator has fallen to 25 percent.

It is true that the FRG does not belong to the group of NATO members who are in a hurry to modernize U.S. tactical missiles in Europe. H.-D. Genscher was quite clear on this point many times: Those who talk about modernization must first of all modernize their own thinking.

In the opinion of both our high-ranking interlocutors, trust under the roof of a unified "common European home" must be a good incentive for disarmament. Such a home cannot be built in a day. Not only disarmament measures but also cooperation, the exchange of cultural values, and human contact are working for trust. Bonn is sure that both NATO and the Warsaw Pact are now thinking in the same direction—to work for greater security with fewer weapons. This inspires a certain optimism. Realistic optimism. Without any illusions.

More on Kohl Comments

PM1710113588 Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 Oct 88 p 3

[Special correspondent R. Kolchanov dispatch "Meeting in the Small Study"]

[Excerpts] Bonn, 14 Oct—In connection with FRG Chancellor H. Kohl's upcoming visit to the USSR, a group of Soviet journalists has been invited to Bonn. Our special correspondent describes a meeting with the head of the West German Government. [passage omitted]

Helmut Kohl checked with his aides: "An hour and a half for the interview?" Anticipating our questions, he told us that he is coming to Moscow with the firm intention to open a new chapter in relations between the Soviet Union and the FRG. Rating highly the policy of restructuring and glasnost, the chancellor noted that he wants to make use of every opportunity to invest these relations with long-term prospects on the basis of the Moscow treaty. This will be a substantial contribution to the future development of Europe and to a radical improvement in East-West relations.

"M.S. Gorbachev and I," H. Kohl said, "agree that the aim of the upcoming exchange of visits is to achieve mutually beneficial progress in many spheres of German-Soviet relations. On the basis of mutual respect, and irrespective of persisting differences on fundamental questions, we want to discuss many as yet untapped opportunities for cooperation. We want to reach agreement on the greatest possible number of specific projects in all spheres of cooperation and exchanges and to embark on their implementation—not just in the political, economic, scientific, and technical spheres but also in the sphere of culture and humanitarian questions. Mutual trust throughout the full range of our relations must be strengthened. I will propose to the CPSU Central Committee general secretary that we place the political dialogue at all levels on a permanent basis. Summit meetings could be held regularly in the future, and contacts between parliamentarians and all sorts of public groups could be intensified.

During my visit competent ministers from both sides will sign a number of agreements. On a number of other projects they will agree on an early beginning of negotiations.

A very important sphere of cooperation where detailed talks have been held and where the first program is about to be agreed on is the training and further improvement of qualifications of leading economic cadres and specialists. I regard this as a key sphere of our future collaboration, especially in light of the structural reforms which are being implemented in the Soviet Union.

The program with which the federal chancellor is embarking on his Moscow visit is impressive. I believe that its scale is due to a considerable extent to the appreciable transformation of the country's public opinion in favor of strengthening and developing multifaceted ties between our countries. This has invariably been confirmed by all recent opinion polls and, according to the newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE, "M.S. Gorbachev has topped the 70 percent mark in the popularity stakes in the FRG."

Naturally, our enemies on the banks of the Rhine have not suddenly disappeared, but even they are increasingly coming to understand that peace with a neighbor is better than a quarrel. Quite a few tragic events have beset our past relations, and the approaches of Moscow and Bonn to a number of key international problems of the present are not the same. But is not the poet right when he exhorts us "To keep an eye to the future?" War and violence cannot be used as means to resolve political disputes, the chancellor stressed several times in his conversation with us.

We talked a great deal about disarmament problems. As is known, the Federal Government welcomed the Soviet-American treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles and took specific steps to assist in its conclusion. Bonn also supports in principle the idea of 50-percent cuts in strategic offensive arms, but at the same time it is opposed to the creation of nuclear-free zones in Europe and to ridding the continent of nuclear weapons in general.

"Nuclear-free status for the FRG," the chancellor claims, "would run counter to our conviction that in order to ensure our security we need both adequate and effective conventional and nuclear armed forces. The creation of a nuclear-free zone would merely entail a resiting of the nuclear potentials and the Federal Government does not see this as a way of enhancing security and stability."

Noting that military cooperation between France and West Germany, and in particular the establishment of a joint brigade, has come in for sharp criticism of late, not just abroad but also inside the FRG, I asked the chancellor what aim was being pursued with this. It is merely a symbol of friendly relations between two countries, H. Kohl replied.

Probably not the best symbol of friendship in view of the striving of millions of people for peaceful cooperation and in view of the difficult negotiations on the various aspects of disarmament, including the Vienna talks on the elaboration of a mandate for talks on conventional arms and confidence-building measures. In this situation every step forward rather than backwards or sideways would be the logical translation of peace-loving assurances into specific actions. The FRG is by no means fully exploiting its potential in this sphere.

Our kind host did not try to sidestep any questions. We stuck to our opinions on a number of controversial problems, we spoke about the need to rid the hearts and minds of people of the "image of the enemy," we agreed on the need to expand contacts between people, and we showed understanding for the difficulties which have developed in trade and economic contacts—on our side through the fault of the former leadership which drove the economy into an impasse, thus reducing our export potential, and on the Western side specifically as a result of continuing attempts to curb trade by means of discriminatory measures.

My colleagues asked questions of interest to their specific publications. I, naturally, could not sidestep the social theme, but in view of the vast range of this topic I

asked the chancellor merely to describe the principles of the current Bonn cabinet's social policy. H. Kohl replied that the government is trying to give everyone a chance to achieve success in life, no matter what his origin. We prefer to help people who have initiative, he added.

It is true that no one in the FRG is barred from university education just because he comes from a poor family. However, for many years the number of students from working class families at FRG higher educational establishments has not risen above the 5 percent mark. The attitude to those to whom life has been unkind is illustrated by the following dramatic figure—of the 2.2 million officially registered unemployed (the trade unions rightly add another million to this), one-third do not receive any unemployment benefit or other assistance. Furthermore, the share of the working people's income in the overall income of the FRG's citizens is constantly descreasing and has fallen by 8 percent over the past 5 years. The authorities' offensive against the trade unions continues unabated. Yet the FRG, as one of the richest states of the West, could easily resolve many of the social problems. [passage omitted]

West German Spokesman Cited

LD1410152988 Moscow TASS in English 1455 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Bonn August 14 TASS—The coming official visit of FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl to the USSR will confirm strong intention of the sides to widen cooperation in the economic, scientific, technological and cultural areas. This was said at a news conference here today by spokesman for the FRG Government Friedhelm Ost.

He said the chancellor's visit during which it is planned to discuss many important matters of bilateral cooperation will emphasize the cardinal role of Soviet-West German relations, their importance for Europe. Helmut Kohl goes to Moscow at a time of marked improvement of international relations which is shown by the progress achieved in the area of disarmament and arms control, in growing closeness of the stands of the sides at the Vienna meeting on working out a mandate of the talks on the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.

Austria Signs Spaceflight Agreement for 1991-2

LD1410115088 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Excerpt] [First announcer] An agreement on a joint Soviet-Austrian spaceflight has been signed in Moscow. It is planned that an Austrian will participate in a space mission aboard the Soviet orbital station on a commercial basis.

[Second announcer] The mission is scheduled for the end of 1991 and the beginning of 1992. Scientists of the two countries have begun discussing a program for joint research during the mission. The 8-day flight of the Austrian cosmonaut will cost $10 million. This includes the cost of his training, of his stay aboard the orbital station and the flight of the transport craft. The amount may be reduced to take account of the Austrian contribution to the program of research in orbit. [passage omitted reviewing Soviet commercial cooperation with other countries in space]

Fire Breaks Out on Ocean Liner in Mediterranean

LD1710144688 Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Rome October 17 TASS—A fire broke out in an auxiliary engine room of the Soviet ocean liner Shota Rustaveli cruising with French passengers on board in the Mediterranean, according to reports from Valletta, Malta.

The vessel was 25 miles off shore. The blaze was put out by the crew. There are no casualties among the passengers.

THE TIMES OF MALTA reported that the liner was at Valletta port, while passengers were offered sight-seeing tours around the island.

The cruise managers believe that the foreign tourists will continue the voyage on board another Soviet vessel.

In the opinion of experts, repair work can be done by the crew and the ship will head to the home port under its own steam.

Latin America & Caribbean

Brazilian President Sarney Pays Official Visit

Sarney Previews Visit

PM1410133788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Oct 88 Second Edition p 7

[TASS report: "Brazilian President's Statement"]

[Text] Brasilia, 13 Oct—Brazil's foreign policy is not subject to any conditions or restrictions, including those of an ideological nature. The upcoming official visit by the Brazilian head of state to the USSR at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government is confirmation of this. During the visit a number of important documents designed to raise our relations to a new level that accords with the two countries' potential will be signed, Brazilian President Jose Sarney stated at a meeting with a group of foreign journalists on Wednesday.

Speaking about stepping up Brazil's foreign policy activity, he said that the upcoming visit, which has been preceded by meetings between the USSR and Brazilian foreign ministers and also by regular exchanges of messages

between Soviet leader M.S. Gorbachev and Brazil's president on questions of bilateral relations and international problems, must be regarded within this framework.

Sarney Arrives in Moscow

PM1810094588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
18 Oct 88 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Arrival of Brazilian President"]

[Text] Brazilian President Jose Sarney arrived in Moscow 17 October on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government.

J. Sarney and his wife were met at Vnukovo Airport by E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister; A.I. Lukyanov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, with his wife; and other officials.

The Brazilian and Soviet state flags were hoisted at the airport. An honor guard was formed of three branches of the USSR Armed Forces—the Ground Forces, the Air Force, and the Navy—on the airfield. A band played the two countries' national anthems.

A.I. Lukyanov and J. Sarney reviewed the Soviet troop formation.

The solemn greetings ceremony ended with a march-past by the honor guard.

The motorcade accompanied by its motorcycle escort moved off from the airport to the Kremlin.

Along the route the Brazilian and USSR state flags and welcome banners in Portuguese and Russian fluttered in the streets and squares of the capital.

On the same day a welcome ceremony was held for the Brazilian guest in the Kremlin.

The Brazilian and Soviet state flags were hoisted at the entrance to the Great Kremlin Palace. A parade detail formed on the main staircase.

In the St. George's Hall J. Sarney and his wife were warmly greeted by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and his wife.

After the welcome ceremony, a short conversation took place between M.S. Gorbachev and J. Sarney.

In the evening J. Sarney and his wife paid an unofficial visit to a performance in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses. They watched L. Minkus' ballet "Don Quixote." A.I. Lukyanov and his wife and other officials were with them in the government box.

Gorbachev, Sarney Tour Kremlin

PM1810105788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
18 Oct 88 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "M.S. Gorbachev and J. Sarney Kremlin Walk"]

[Text] In the evening of 17 October after the official welcome ceremony in the St. George's Hall of the Great Kremlin Palace, M.S. Gorbachev and his wife accompanied by J. Sarney and his wife took a walk around the Moscow Kremlin lasting almost 1 hour. They looked round the USSR Supreme Soviet building and also the Tsar-Bell, the Tsar-Cannon, the Ivan the Great Bell Tower, and other sights of the Kremlin, and visited the Cathedral of the Assumption.

On Cathedral Square delegates to the All-Union Congress of Physicians who had just completed their first day's work greeted the two countries' leaders.

M.S. Gorbachev. Good evening, comrade delegates, we're coming to see you. (Animation).

Voice. We're glad to welcome you.

M.S. Gorbachev. Let me introduce to you our guest, Brazilian President Mr Sarney, and his wife.

J. Sarney. I would like to greet through you the entire Soviet people.

Voice. Thank you.

J. Sarney. It is a great joy for us to be here with the world-famous leader Mr Gorbachev, who has done such a great deal for the sake of peace.

Mikhail Sergeyevich noted with a smile: We don't usually talk like that now. (Animation). Self-criticism is more in vogue in our country now. But a guest can do anything. Comrades, are you enjoying your congress?

Voice. Yes, it's businesslike. And full.

Voice. It's long overdue, we have things to talk about.

M.S. Gorbachev. So, substantial debates are under way? Mr Sarney, these men are physicians. A physicians' congress has begun in Moscow. Doctors from all over the country are taking part in it.

We have had an active correspondence with the president. We only set eyes on one another today, literally a few minutes ago. You know, our correspondence helped us to imagine one another and imagine one another's policy—both domestic and foreign policy. In your presence I would now like to greet Mr President and his wife

and to say that Mr Sarney personifies the progress in all spheres of life that is now under way in contemporary Brazil. Our citizens and I congratulate you on the adoption of the Brazilian Constitution. Brazil is a great country with a lofty people. We wish you new achievements. We will talk about other things without the doctors. (Laughter).

J. Sarney. I feel deeply that we are now opening up new frontiers in Brazilian-Soviet relations. The distance between the peoples is sometimes a peculiar way of tempting us to rapprochement. We are passengers on the same ship—the earth—on its rapid passage through the universe.

M.S Gorbachev. I sense right away that we have before us not only a president but also one of Brazil's prominent writers. (Animation).

J. Sarney. I bring you the friendship of the Brazilian people.

M.S. Gorbachev. Let me shake your hand, Mr Sarney.

J. Sarney. It is these feelings of friendship that I would like to leave you, in the presence of your president, Mr Gorbachev.

M.S. Gorbachev. All the best, comrades.

J. Sarney. Goodbye.

M.S. Gorbachev. This is Cathedral Square.

J. Sarney. It's beautiful, with a sense of space and history. I have always said in Brazil that nations need a minimum of three things: historians to talk about the past, us politicians to talk about the present, and poets to think and dream about the future.

M.S. Gorbachev. The CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the government work here. This is the political center of the country. That is why when people say: "The Kremlin is where the thinking is done"—they're right. (Animation and laughter).

J. Sarney. Mr Gorbachev, many thanks for this walk. We have had a taste of your history and the power of your present. This was very welcome. I would like to take this opportunity to say that we consider this visit to the USSR very important. We have even ordered a special medal to be issued commemorating this visit to the Soviet Union. I would like to give you this medal bearing the Soviet and Brazilian coats of arms.

M.S. Gorbachev. This is a very interesting idea and an interesting way of expressing it. Thank you, Mr President.

Television Protocol Signed With Brazil

LD1710214788 Moscow TASS in English 1651 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—A protocol of intentions in the field of television signed between the Soviet Gostelradio Agency, which handles radio and TV broadcasting, and the Brazilian Government Network TV Educativa provides for extensive exchanges of TV programs and personnel and for mutual assistance with preparing TV shows about the USSR and Brazil.

The protocol was signed by Gostelradio Deputy Chairman Vladimir Popov and TV Educative President Antonio Frota Neto.

'Destabilizing Factors' in Haiti Noted

PM1710114388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent A. Kamorin dispatch: "Haiti: Destabilizing Factors"]

[Text] Havana—The relative calm which reigned in Haiti for almost 1 month after the coup which overthrew General Namphy's regime is in jeopardy.

The first destabilizing factor was a news report from the small town of Terre-Froide, not far from the border with the Dominican Republic, of the death of Lucas Innocent, leader of a tiny grouping called the Revolutionary Unity Movement which was founded while Jean-Claude Duvalier was still in power. According to the Haitian authorities' official story, Innocent, who was forced to flee the country in April to escape persecution by the "Tontons Macoutes," infiltrated Haitian territory at the head of an armed group which attacked an army barracks. According to the same Ministry of Defense communique, the leader of the grouping was killed in the exchange of fire, and his supporters have gone into hiding.

This explanation was immediately refuted by two sources: Jean Reynal [name as published], one of Innocent's surviving associates, declared in Santo Domingo that the group had crossed the border unarmed and intended to hold a meeting with its supporters in Terre-Froide, where they were suddenly attacked by soldiers. For its part, the Dominican Republic Foreign Ministry denied any possibility of armed detachments crossing the border between the two states.

There is no doubt that Lucas Innocent's death could have a negative effect on the prospects for national political dialogue as suggested by General Prosper Avril's government.

There was a strong demonstration of protest against the Vatican's decision to recall by 17 October Father J.B. Aristide, a most widely known religious and public figure. The demonstrators chanted slogans accusing the Catholic hierarchy of aiding and abetting supporters of the fugitive tyrant Duvalier. A protest against this decision by the Vatican was also made by Father Gerard-Jean Juste, leader of the Center for Aid to Peasant Refugees in the U.S. city of Miami.

Political & Social

Gorbachev Chairs Political Reform Session

PM1810103588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Oct 88 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Commission Session"]

[Text] At the CPSU Central Committee 17 October a session of the commission for drafting proposals connected with the implementation of the political reform, formed at the CPSU Central Committee July 1988 Plenum, was held under the chairmanship of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. The commission examined drafts of a law on amendments and addenda to the USSR Constitution and a law on elections of USSR people's deputies. Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, reported on the progress of work on the draft laws. He gave special attention to an examination of the remarks and proposals made by members of the commission at preceding stages of the work on the documents.

Speaking at the session were: Mironenko, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee; Karpov, first secretary of the Board of the USSR Writers' Union; Polozkov and first secretary of the Krasnodar Kray CPSU Committee; Manyakin, chairman of the USSR People's Control Committee; Pugo, chairman of the Party Control Committee of the CPSU Central Committee; Solovyev, first secretary of Leningrad Oblast Committee of the CPSU; Pogrebnyak, first secretary of Lvov Oblast Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party; Laptev, editor-in-chief of IZVESTIYA; Zatvornitskiy, brigade leader of complex brigade of Mosstroy Trust No 1; Vezirov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Azerbaijan Communist Party; Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee; Sokolov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee; and Popov, general designer of the Design Bureau of the Kirov works production association.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev reviewed the outcome of the discussions. Having examined the draft laws that were presented, the commission noted that they are in keeping with the decisions of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference and create opportunities for practical implementation of the political reform and further development of the processes of democratization in society. The commission advocated that after they are given the final touches the draft laws should be published in the next few days for public discussion.

Gerasimov: Ligachev No Longer Gorbachev's No 2

PM1810090088 London DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 18 Oct 88 p 1

[Xan Smiley dispatch: "Gorbachev's Rival's Demotion Leaves No. 2 Post Vacant"]

[Text] Moscow—An official Soviet spokesman confirmed last night that Mr Yegor Ligachev, Mr Gorbachev's principal conservative rival, is no longer the Soviet leader's official deputy.

But the spokesman, Mr Gennadiy Gerasimov, also gave the impression that a precise new Kremlin power structure has yet to emerge following Mr Gorbachev's Politburo shake-up at the end of last month.

"All members of the Politburo are equal and some might be more equal than others," said Mr Gerasimov, implying that there may now be a small clutch of senior figures in the 12-man Politburo with roughly equal claims to be Mr Gorbachev's deputy.

In the past, that post has often been held by the official guardian of Marxist ideology, but the new guardian, Mr Vadim Medvedev, is the most recent appointee to the Politburo and, though clearly very influential, cannot yet rate as a prospective deputy to Mr Gorbachev.

Mr Lev Zaykov, the Moscow party boss and secretary for defence-related heavy industry, is probably the senior Politburo member after Mr Gorbachev, but has yet to claim the position formally.

Mr Aleksandr Yakovlev, the party's new foreign policy supremo, clearly also wields great influence and is known to be close to the Kremlin leader.

But, in keeping with Mr Gorbachev's penchant for breaking with tradition, there may now be a deliberate blurring of the uppermost ranks. Mr Gerasimov's key disclosure was that Mr Ligachev, who appeared formally to retain his number two position on the podium when the Supreme Soviet met after the reshuffle, has been officially demoted, though he may still retain great influence.

Mr Gerasimov also said that the new system of six party commissions—one which Mr Ligachev now heads for agriculture—is still evolving. The full range of new assignments, he said, has yet to be decided. He confirmed, however, that Mr Ligachev is still above Mr Viktor Nikonov, who remains party secretary for the agriculture—an anomaly that Kremlin-watchers find puzzling.

"In any case", Mr Gerasimov observed, "agriculture deserves the attention of more than one person".

Meanwhile, Mr Zaykov called on the press to paint a more positive figure of "Soviet man in the era of perestroyka."

In a weekend speech to Moscow party propagandists Mr Zaykov struck a rather conservative note, stressing the need to squash "informal groups" if they stray from the official line and calling on party activists not to encourage "whiners".

While paying the standard homage to glasnost and reform, Mr Zaykov gave the impression that, if he does become Mr Gorbachev's deputy, he will invoke the need for stern discipline and respect for orthodox doctrine as much as for reform and experimentation.

His tone differed sharply from that of Mr Boris Yeltsin, the outspoken former Moscow party boss who was displaced for his ultra-reformist bluntness last year.

On economic matters, Mr Zaykov was frank about failings such as shortages in the shops, and said that "the disgraceful situation" had to be improved by the end of this year.

If it was not improved, "a breeding ground for all sorts of intriguers will be created".

'Sources': Falin Heading International Department

OW1810052688 Tokyo KYODO in English 0458 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 18 KYODO—Valentin Falin, chairman of the Soviet NOVOSTI Press Agency, was recently appointed head of the International Department of the Communist Party's Central Committee, succeeding Anatoliy Dobrynin, former ambassador to the United States, Soviet sources in Japan reported Tuesday.

Falin's appointment follows a large-scale reform of the party's organization of more than 20 posts made at the general meeting of the Central Committee on September 30.

The 62-year-old Falin became chairman of the press agency in March 1986, and as such had been serving as Soviet supreme leader Mikhail Gorbachev's spokesman for foreign affairs. He was nominated as a candidate for the Central Committee in the 27th party conference the same year.

Falin, who graduated from Moscow's University of International Relations, was Soviet ambassador to West Germany between 1971 and 1978.

The sources said it was not yet decided who Falin's successor will be at the agency.

Last Wednesday, former Ambassador to Cuba Aleksandr Kapto was appointed as the chief of the central party's Ideology Department.

Zaykov Addresses Moscow Propaganda Workers

PM1810091788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Oct 88 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Using Weapon of the Party's Word"]

[Text] The content and methods of the CPSU's ideological work are defined today by the decisions of the 19th all-union party conference. The party committees and ideological aktiv are being required to perform purposeful and consistent work to achieve real results in implementing the instructions of the conference and CPSU Central Committee plenums.

This was emphasized at the 15 October meeting of the aktiv of the capital's propaganda workers with the Moscow party gorkom secretaries.

The capital's party organization has every opportunity to perform ideological work effectively: It has a detachment of many thousands of qualified social scientists and propaganda workers, and there is a powerful base—a broad network of political enlightenment centers and offices and universities of Marxism-Leninism.

But this powerful potential is so far being used inadequately. Formalism, dogmatism, routine, empty verbiage, and cliches are being eliminated only slowly in propaganda work.

It is essential to increase the real return from political and economic study for the practical needs of restructuring and to bring this study closer to specific present-day tasks.

Those taking part in the meeting exchanged opinions on new forms and methods of propaganda work and ways of further improving its effectiveness.

Today's keen and frank talk, L.N. Zaykov, member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, stressed in his speech, has reaffirmed that the capital's corps of propaganda workers contains a strong, ideologically convinced, competent nucleus. There is a force on which the party gorkom can rely in implementing the decisions of the all-union party conference. We have felt once again that we must step up work in leading the ideological process and enhance party influence on the content and methods of political and economic study.

The main reasons for the stoppage were also revealed: merely superficial acquaintance with the classic workers of Marxism-Leninism, feeble knowledge of party documents and the thrust of the decisions which have been taken, and a fear of lively and direct discussion with people on urgent issues.

The party, the CPSU Central Committee secretary noted, has entrusted you with a most powerful weapon, the weapon that is our reactionary teaching, our party word. It is essential to step up the assertiveness of propaganda, to seek specific results today, and to see the long term.

Answers were given to numerous questions from the capital's propaganda workers.

Further on Nagorno-Karabakh Ethnic Unrest

Official Candidate Not Elected

AU1710152688 Paris AFP in English 1521 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow, Oct 17 (AFP)—The official Communist Party candidate in a by-election Sunday in the southern republic of Armenia failed to win an overall majority, and a new election has been scheduled, an Armenian journalist in Yerevan told AFP Monday.

It was the third time this month that the official candidate has failed to obtain a majority in a by-election to the Armenian parliament.

The election was also contested by a member of the nationalist Karabakh committee, Rafael Kazaryan, but his candidacy was declared illegal by authorities for technical reasons.

The Karabakh committee had nevertheless called on voters in the town of Charentsavan to substitute the name of Mr. Kazaryan, but he too failed to win a majority, the journalist from the local news agency ARMENPRES said.

"Neither candidate won," the source said. Precise results of the elections were not available and the new election date had not been announced.

Two other by-elections were annulled after the Karabakh committee candidate won more votes than that of the Armenian foreign affairs and interior minister.

The Armenian Central Committee ordered the expulsion from the party of the local Organisation Party Work Department chief, Khristofer Mandalyan, after the first election on October 4, in which a nationalist hunger-striker obtained more votes than the official candidate.

The Armenians, led by the Karabakh committee, are campaigning for the transfer of the disputed Azerbaijani region of Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia.

Commission Continues Work

LD1710222188 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Once more we turn to the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh. There the group of deputies from the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities who are members of the USSR Supreme Soviet Commission on Interethnic Relations completed its work yesterday. Our special correspondent Sergey Omelchenko reports from Stepanakert:

[Begin recording] [Omelchenko] The deputies have been busy these last few days with meetings and conversations with the aktiv of the city and districts, with work collectives, and with the creative intelligentsia, party, soviet, and economic leaders. A whole range of difficult matters connected with Nagorno-Karabakh was raised before the deputies at each session and meeting. People told of their troubles, conclusions, and hopes. Many are brought to extremes by the instability of the situation, apprehension for their near and dear and for themselves, and the undermining of the family budget due to recent events.

A wall of alienation, fear, and lack of understanding has grown up between the two peoples. In the meantime that wall is not crumbling. Take, for example, the Karabakh silk combine in Stepanakert. About 2,000 people work there. Approximately 360 of them are Azerbaijani: They either do not have an opportunity to go to work or are afraid to do so. The deputies explained at the meeting with the collective of the combine the conditions for the return of the people to production, but they have so far run up against a total lack of understanding. Exactly the same uncompromising spirit is observed with respect to the Armenians on the part of the Azerbaijani, such as in the town of Shusha.

An urgent solution is also needed on the problem of migrants. People are often staying with relatives in overcrowded houses; they live in unhygenic conditions and makeshift premises, and many do not have any work. Resolution of that sharp knot of problems is still being drawn out.

The deputies who are members of the commission on interethnic relations saw for themselves the current state of Nagorno-Karabakh, and they will probably draw their own objective conclusions. But I will ask Vladimir Grigoriyevich Lomonosov, deputy chairman of the AUCCTU, to share his first impressions of the meeting.

[Lomonosov] First of all, a most frank conversation has been initiated here, a sharp conversation. I hope the comrades have spoken objectively about the various events which took place and have expressed in their view and according to their mood their feelings about what happened here. This is not one section or part. This was most amicably supported. Some decisions might perhaps be made, and alternatives, rather than hard-and-fast

conditions, are being offered. Right now I see our task and my own as a deputy of the Supreme Soviet, in a calm atmosphere and on the basis of the meetings and further analysis of the issues, as being one of making proposals which would definitely get rid of the deadlock. [end recording]

Yerevan City Official Cited

LD1710190688 Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Yerevan October 17 TASS—"The nascent process of stabilization in Armenia is increasingly gaining in strength and it is now obvious that healthy social forces have taken the upper hand," the first secretary of the Yerevan City Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia has said.

Mikhail Minasbekyan was speaking in an interview with a special TASS correspondent about the situation in this Soviet Transcaucasian republic.

"Worker collectives are seeking to make up for lost production and catch up with their delivery schedules," he said.

Commenting on earlier unauthorized rallies and strikes and on anti-Soviet slogans made in their course, Minasbekyan said the instigatory voices at those rallies had failed to form a choir.

"It couldn't have been otherwise: Those urging destruction cannot find support in the USSR," he explained.

The leader of the Yerevan Communists said that at the same time "We readily welcome and shall support any practical action towards fulfilling the decisions of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee and the Soviet Government on Nagorno-Karabakh".

He added that the city's worker collectives were already doing much in that respect.

Minasbekyan denounced those attempting to misuse the Karabakh movement for selfish purposes and direct it to develop destructive lines.

He noted that in a certain measure the destabilizing forces had been able to achieve that aim: The strikes had prevented many industrial facilities and social amenities from being built, including 220 apartments, day nurseries for 150 children and school accommodation for 137 students.

However, the losses were heavy not only in the material sense as the process of instruction at colleges and schools had been severely disrupted and some damage been done to Armenia's prestige as well, Minasbekyan noted.

Commenting on rumors floated by irresponsible people, he said, among other things, that the so-called Karabakh committee, exploiting the Karabakh movement as a cover, was going over to political struggle.

"In this connection one can see the relationship of the 'democracy of rallies' and individual provocative calls for armed struggle, pressure on authorities and voters during recent elections to Armenia's Supreme Soviet, and disregard for law, in particular for the decree on procedures for holding rallies and demonstrations.

"Such dubious actions as the hanging of alternative state flags rank in the same category," Minasbekyan continued.

"At the same time there are a number of problems solving which can appreciably help our work with the people, but these problems are not the province of the Yerevan City Party Committee alone and they include the problems of relations between different ethnic groups.

"They must be resolved as soon as possible. And the people dealing with these problems should be highly competent, knowledgeable and tactful," the leader of the Yerevan Communists said.

Further Press Reportage on Ukrainian Plenum

AU1710110288 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 11 Oct 88 p 1

["Information Announcement on a Plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] A plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee opened on 10 October.

The plenum had on its agenda the following items:

1. The work performed in the republic to implement the decisions of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference and of the July and September CPSU Central Committee Plenums.

2. Measures to improve food supplies to the republic's population.

3. Organizational issues.

A report on the first item on the agenda was delivered by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary.

The following comrades participated in the discussion: A.Ya. Vinnik, Donetsk Obkom first secretary; B.Ye. Paton, president of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences and director of the Ye.O. Paton Electric Arc Welding Institute of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences; A.D. Dragolyuntsev, comprehensive drilling team leader at the "Voroshilovgrad Diesel Locomotive"

production association; K.I. Masik, Kiev Gorkom first secretary; A.I. Goryanov, general director of the Kremenchug association for the production of heavy trucks; A.S. Maselskiy, Kharkov Oblispolkom chairman; P.Ya. Zayvyy, the 25th CPSU Congress Kolkhoz chairman in Onufriyevskiy Rayon, Kirovograd Oblast; G.I. Revenko, Kiev Obkom first secretary; V.P. Salo, Ukrainian SSR minister of construction; I.A. Lyakhov, Voroshilovgrad Obkom first secretary; V.A. Ivashko, Dnepropetrovsk Obkom first secretary; P.I. Mostovoy, Ukrainian Gossnab chairman; V.S. Shevchenko, Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman; V.P. Kotkov, Novobugskiy Raykom first secretary in Nikolayev Oblast; Ya.P. Pogrebnyak, Lvov Obkom first secretary; V.I. Tsybukh, Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee first secretary; A.G. Grinchenko, fitter at the "Kharkov 'Hammer and Sickle' engine building plant" production association; L.I. Pavlenko, Volyn Obkom first secretary; Yu.A. Olenenko, Ukrainian SSR minister of culture; A.S. Myakota, Poltava Obkom first secretary; P.I. Popov, stope surface workers' team leader in the mining administration named after the newpaper SOTSIALISTICHESKIY DONBASS under the Donetsk coal mining association; and A.S. Statinov, Ukrainian SSR minister of trade.

Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy delivered the concluding speech.

The plenum adopted a decision on the item discussed, and it will be published in the press.

An organizational plan was approved for the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee to practically implement in the republic the decisions of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference and of the July and the September (1988) CPSU Central Committee Plenums.

N.N. Kovalenko, sector chief in the Agriculture and Food Industry Department of the CPSU Central Committee, participated in the plenum proceedings.

The proceedings of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee plenum continued on 11 October.

Personnel Changes Noted

AU1710110388 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 12 Oct 88 p 1

["Information Announcement on the Plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] On 11 October the plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee continued its proceedings.

A report on the measures taken to improve food supplies to the republic's population was delivered by V.A. Masol, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Council of Ministers chairman.

Participating in the debate on the issue were the following comrades: L.I. Palazhchenko, Chernigov Obkom first secretary; Z.Ya. Lozhovskaya, chairman of the "Serp i Molot" Kolkhoz in Zolochevskiy Rayon, Lvov Oblast; A.V. Pecherov, Odessa Oblispolkom chairman; N.S. Sabadash, field cropping team leader at the Kirov Kolkhoz in Chemerovetskiy Rayon, Khmelnitskiy Oblast; N.A. Didyk, Vinnitsa Oblispolkom chairman; and V.R. Shvets, Kagarlykskiy Raykom first secretary in Kiev Oblast.

The plenum adopted a decision on the issue discussed, which has been published in the press.

Organizational issues were examined.

In conformity with the directives of the 19th all-union party conference and with the decisions of the July and the September CPSU Central Committee Plenums, the plenum adopted the decision to form commissions of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and to reorganize the apparatus of the republic's party organs.

The plenum relieved I.A. Mozgovoy of the duties of Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary in connection with his retirement on pension.

I.G. Grintsov was elected as Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary.

The plenum promoted A.Ya. Vinnik, Donetsk Obkom first secretary, and V.I. Tsybukh, Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee first secretary, from candidate members to full members of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo.

With this the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum ended its proceedings.

Grintsov Profiled

AU1710111888 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 12 Oct 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Ivan Grigoryevich Grintsov, Politburo Member and Secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] Born in 1935, I.G. Grintsov is a Ukrainian, a CPSU member since 1960, and he has a higher education: In 1957 he graduated from Voroshilovgrad Agricultural Institute and is a trained agronomist.

Having graduated from the institute, he worked as an agronomist, as a kolkhoz chairman, and as chief of a rayon agricultural production administration. In carrying out party work since 1967, he was Velikonovoselovskiy Raykom first secretary in Donetsk Oblast, and Donetsk Obkom secretary.

In April 1975 he was elected Sumy Obkom first secretary. He is a CPSU Central Committee candidate member, a Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee member, and a USSR Supreme Soviet deputy.

Ukraine Auditing Commission Holds Session

AU1710111988 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 12 Oct 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Communist Party Auditing Commission"]

[Text] A session of the Ukrainian Communist Party Auditing Commission was held on 11 October. The results of the commission's work in the first half of 1988 and measures to improve the work were examined.

Expanded Language Use in Ukraine Described

LD1410134288 Moscow TASS in English 1046 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Kiev October 14 TASS—The courses for upgrading the qualification of Ukrainian language teachers have resumed operation at Ukrainian universities. The enrollment of students to pedagogical institutes to acquire the speciality of the teachers of the Ukrainian language and literature was increased. This is all the more important since five more hours were allotted to the study of the Ukrainian language and literature in schools each week in the new academic year which began on September 1. The number of schools in which instruction is conducted in the Ukrainian language went up by 137. In four out of eight schools, which were built in Kiev this year, instruction is in Ukrainian and in two—in Ukrainian and Russian.

This is the way the excesses, which were committed in the Ukraine in the past and led to the unjustified shrinking of the sphere in which the Ukrainian language was used in the republic, begin to be ironed out.

Additional measures to broaden the sphere for the use of the Ukrainian language were approved at the just-ended plenary meeting of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. Specifically, a creative union is being set up at the Kiev film studio to dub films in Ukrainian.

Concern for the development of the culture and language of the Ukrainians and also national minorities presupposes at the same time that due attention will continue to be paid to the study of the Russian language as a tested means of inter-ethnic communication, participants in the plenum stressed.

At the same time, attention to ethnic groups living in the republic was also conspicuously increased. Dozens of optional courses for the study of the Bulgarian, Hungarian, Moldavian, Polish, Greek, and Crimean-Tatar languages were opened in schools and higher educational establishments. Newspapers and literary supplements are published in Hungarian, Bulgarian and Moldavian, radio and television programmes are broadcast. Preparations were launched to issue newspapers in the Crimean-Tatar language.

Model for Latvian 'Sovereignty' Drafted

WA18200022 Riga SOVETSKAYA MOLODEZH in Russian 7 Sep 88 pp 2-3

[Model for restructuring Latvian SSR economic management drafted by A. Kalninsh, leader of a working group attached to the Latvian Komsomol and academician in the LaSSR Academy of Sciences; and Ya. Aboltyn, E. Amerik, V. Andreyeva, D. Babulis, V. Blinov, I. Feyferis, D. Kekhris, I. Priyeditis, and E. Silinsh, signed in Riga 30 August 1988: "A General Model for Restructuring Economic Management of the Latvian SSR (Cost Accounting for the Republic)"]

[Text] AN ESSENTIAL PREFACE [subhead]

The draft of a conception of the Latvian SSR's economic and social development up to the year 2005 was recently submitted for public discussion in the republic. The draft points out that a new model for the republic's socioeconomic development will be elaborated and the republic and its regions will be shifted to cost accounting with the objective of raising the people's level of prosperity in the period forecast. In this connection, a working group attached to the Latvian Komsomol, formed at its own initiative (Ya. Aboltyn, E. Amerik, V. Andreyeva, D. Babulis, V. Blinov, I. Feyferis, A. Kalninsh, O. Kekhris, I. Priyeditis and R. Silinsh) is suggesting a general model for restructuring economic management of the Latvian SSR. This work was carried out in contact with colleagues from Estonia and Lithuania.

We will not discuss the reasons why a more efficient economic mechanism is necessary for the republic. This question has already been covered in our press and on radio and television. The chief concern now is: How do we move ahead? We believe that increasing the republic's economic independence and augmenting the republic's responsibility for overall development in the economic and social areas at the same time is one of the basic solutions in our model. Declarations of this thesis are not sufficient, however; it must be given a juridical and economic foundation.

Together with increased economic independence, the model proposed also provides for development of economic ties with other republics and foreign countries through equivalent exchange based on the law of value, making broad use of the socialist market. The general interests of the Soviet Union will be provided for with the help of a single standardized payment to the state budget from the republic's income. The organs of authority elected by the people (the republic's Supreme Soviet and city, rayon, settlement and rural soviets) will become managers with full rights. They will be able to resolve all the problems which most closely affect the development of production and a higher standard of living for the residents in a more

comprehensive, efficient, and objective manner. The management of enterprises, cooperatives, and other economic organizations should be provided for directly—basically through economic levers and by a flexible system of taxes first of all. Let us stress in particular that there should not simply be a transfer of the enterprises and organizations of union subordination to the authority of the republic (from one subordination to another); the economic independence of these basic production structures should be practically safeguarded by economic methods of management. In that way, a radical increase in economic independence should take place within the republic itself. Under the same principle, there should be increased incentive as well: As an example, 40 percent of the total (norm) of an enterprise's profit that is withheld will remain in the budget of a settlement; 30 percent of the total will remain in a rayon's budget and 30 percent will go to the republic's budget.

It is understandable that a question arises concerning the effect of the transition to cost accounting on each of us individually. One of the most important tasks of republic cost accounting is to help to shape a conscientious attitude toward labor, a scrupulous approach to the work, and a proprietary psychology with respect to the place where we live and work, and to physical assets as well as the environment. The more substantial the labor contribution of each person, the more generous the reward and the larger the budget of the people's local authorities. The local budget will also grow with an increase in the contributions made by enterprises and organizations located in the territory of a settlement or rayon.

In turn, filling the socialist market with goods (food, household appliances, and so forth) in accordance with consumer demand in any place—whether in the city or in the countryside—is an essential condition to meet the needs of our life.

It is clear that the proposals set forth differ substantially from the regulations which exist in a number of cases, such as in tax policy. For this reason, different systems may coexist simultaneously at a certain time in our state: in republics which have shifted to cost accounting and in republics which are operating in accordance with the previous procedures for the present.

The first stage of the work has been completed—a general model was been worked out. This does not rule out further refinement and improvement in it, of course. There may be further discussion on making the republic's transitional stage to cost accounting more precise, providing more detail on tax and price setting, working out the conditions for establishing and implementing the budgets at different levels, and observing the characteristics of different national economic fields (complexes) in the transition to cost accounting. A program of specific actions is necessary. Special alternative studies are necessary to work out the principles for free economic zones in the territory of the entire republic. It is desirable to conduct all this work in coordination with economists and specialists from Estonia, Lithuania, and Belorussia. By utilizing such a more refined model of the economic mechanism, we will be able to stabilize the republic's economy more rapidly. And the more harmonious and developed each of the republics is, the more economically powerful our entire Soviet Union will be.

[Signed] **A. Kalninsh,** leader of the working group and academician at the Latvian SSR Academy of Sciences.

Along with certain successes, there have been a number of serious disproportions and problems in the postwar development of Soviet Latvia's economy. The dictates of union ministries and departments have led repeatedly to unjustified priority development of industrial production over agricultural production and development of the physical base for the social area. The republic's population has increased automatically to more than twice its natural size in order to accelerate industrial development. All the natural environment has deteriorated drastically. There is chronic lack of balance between the population's effective demand and the sales of goods and services. The food supply situation has become acute.

To a considerable extent, the reason for the situation that has developed is the lack of real independence in the territory's economic management. A fundamental way of resolving the problems set forth above is to extend independence and thereby increase the republic's responsibility for overall economic and social development of its territory, which is in accordance with the decisions of the June (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the resolutions of the 19th all-union party conference.

1. THE LEGAL AND ECONOMIC BASIS FOR THE REPUBLIC'S ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE [subhead]

1.1. The basis of the republic's economic independence is the right to independently own, put to use, and dispose of its own property, which is a separate part of all-union property. The republic's ownership of the means of production is in the form of the property of state, cooperative (collective), and individual producers. The objects of republic ownership are:

—the land, its mineral resources, reservoirs, forests, and coastal waters;

—all the public wealth in the republic's territory: the means of production; networks (systems) of transport, communications, and power generation; state institutions; housing; and items of infrastructure (state national property); and

—the property of kolkhozes, cooperatives, and associations; interrepublic and international joint-stock companies; and public organizations, as well as individual producers.

The subject of republic property is the people, on behalf of whom the Supreme Soviet determines the procedure for owning, utilizing and disposing of it.

1.2. State and cooperative institutions and enterprises and individual producers have the right to directly put to use and dispose of republic property; their activity is regulated solely by a system of taxes and other economic levers.

Economically independent state and cooperative enterprises and organizations and joint-stock companies and persons engaged in individual activity are the basis of the republic's economic independence. The republic's economic independence is exercised through the republic's independently formed budget and independently drafted social and economic development plans.

1.3. Individual objects of a national nature (enterprises and equipment of the defense industry, for example) may be classified as state property of the USSR or other republics and transferred to them for appropriate management on the basis of a long-term agreement between supreme soviets.

All enterprises, including those based on the ownership of interrepublic and international joint-stock companies and which have been transferred to the USSR or other republics on a contractual (lease) basis, as well as after the Latvian SSR's shift to cost accounting, which are being newly established by other republics and states (or their firms), take part in forming the republic and local budgets and follow the republic's laws.

1.4. By 1 January 1987 the republic's national wealth amounted to 39.6 billion rubles, including fixed capital (including livestock) of 27.1 billion rubles, 17.9 billion of which are productive and 9.2 billion of which are nonproductive. In addition, working capital totaled 6.1 billion rubles and the household property of the people amounted to 6.4 billion rubles. An assessment of the natural resources of the land, forests, and mineral deposits is not yet expressed in value terms in official statistics.

By 1 January 1988, the value of the fixed capital held by cost-accounting enterprises and organizations in the republic in accordance with their subordination was as follows: 4.5 billion rubles, or 21.8 percent, held by ministries and departments of republic subordination; 10.3 billion rubles, or 50.2 percent, by ministries and departments of union-republic subordination; 5.7 billion rubles, or 28.0 percent, by enterprises of union subordination; and 5.5 percent, 31.1 percent and 63.4 percent, respectively, by industry. Some 1,423,000,000 rubles, or 14.5 percent of all nonproductive fixed capital, is under the authority of enterprises and organizations of union subordination.

1.5. Cost accounting enterprises and organizations in the republic will operate primarily on the basis of direct application of the principles formulated in the Law on the State Enterprise (Association) and in the Law on the Cooperative. Careful adherence to the rules formulated in these laws will pave the way for the republic's transition to cost accounting to a considerable extent.

1.6. All matters related to the organization, structure and activity of republic and local organs of state authority and management are under the republic's jurisdiction. The special Constitutional Court of the USSR which is being established under the USSR Supreme Soviet would give a final judgment of the legality of normative acts by organs of authority and administration of the USSR and the republic, as well as the correctness of application of these acts.

THE ECONOMIC MECHANISM [subhead]

2.1. **The republic's economic activity.**

2.1.1. Economic ties among enterprises, firms and organizations are formed by means of the socialist market mechanism, based on equivalent commodity exchange.

Economic ties between the republic's enterprises and organizations and the enterprises and organizations of other republics are based solely on commodity-money relationships and cost accounting advantages and are implemented through the socialist market in accordance with the goodwill of the participants. Economic ties with enterprises and organizations in those republics where cost accounting (commercial) relationships have not been developed adequately may also be maintained and stabilized through the mediation of the appropriate organs of state authority which have jurisdiction over the economic partners; when necessary, these relationships may be regulated by the republic's organs of authority.

2.1.2. The state orders of an enterprise are handled competitively. For enterprises and economic organizations to compete for the orders, state orders should provide for a greater economic advantage than other contracts. Ministries (state committees) which are carrying out state functions (the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Health, and others) with state budget funds have the right to represent the state in the economic system. Incentive for fulfillment of such state orders is provided by economic methods, such as the establishment of a preferential tax rate. Under the procedure being established in the transitional period, whatever is sold outside of a state order is sold on the market at contract prices.

2.1.3. The republic's transition to cost accounting assumes the introduction of multichannel wholesale trade in capital goods, a market for consumer goods and services, and a regulated system of money circulation (the development of convertible currency provided with commodity and material and technical resources).

2.1.4. Limit prices and taxes are the basic levers for regulating the republic's economy. Prices and taxes equalize production conditions and consumption and maintain economic equilibrium.

The republic's state organs are establishing limit prices only in those cases where they create more favorable conditions for bringing about equilibrium between production potentialities and the effective demand of the population or if it is necessary to evaluate public social and moral factors, that is, in the following cases:

—for essential commodities and those in mass demand;

—for commodities that are produced or services that are provided under monopoly conditions (by taking steps at the same time to overcome the monopolization);

—for services of a public nature or commodities that are general and indivisible in nature, such as major transport services and communications, power systems, and so forth;

—an excise tax on products whose production is regulated on the basis of social and moral factors in the socialist way of life; and

—for commodities and services that are ordered by state organs on a contractual basis.

2.1.5. In the first stage of introducing cost accounting in the republic, while the market mechanism is not completely in effect, wholesale prices are being set in three ways: Prices for raw material and products of a strategic nature which are stable for a five-year plan are determined by the country's central economic organs; contract prices are set for products that are not in mass production; and prices for products that are in mass production and for mass consumption are established in the wholesale trade network on the basis of supply and demand.

2.1.6. All enterprises and organizations (state, cooperative, joint-stock company, and individual, including organizations in the nonproduction sphere) which are located in the republic's territory and engaged in economic activity are subject to the following approximate taxes:

Type of Tax	Assigned to Budgets, in Percent		
	Republic	Rayon and City	Rural and Settlement
1. On property, including land	70	20	10
2. On trade turnover	30	35	35
3. On the profit (income) of enterprises and organizations	30	30	40
4. On citizens' incomes	20	30	50
5. Excise tax	100	—	—
6. On gasoline (fuel for motor vehicles)	100	—	—
7. Customs duty	100	—	—
8. Other taxes: as decided by republic and local organs of authority			

The republic organs of authority establish identical payments for all users of the same type of state resources.

There may be different transitional forms in the first stage. In principle, the turnover tax should be abolished when an excise tax on certain commodities (alcohol and tobacco products) and a tax on trade turnover are introduced. In 1987, the turnover tax in the republic was registered as 1,688,800,000 rubles, 66.3 percent of which, or 1,119,100,000 rubles, was assigned to the republic budget. This amounts to 42.6 percent of the republic budget's overall income section (2,628,600,000 rubles).

2.1.7. Taxes are levied at all administrative levels: state (republic) taxes; taxes by cities of republic subordination and rayons; and rural and settlement taxes.

2.1.8. The republic independently conducts cash and prize lotteries, issues local loans, and develops new forms of deposits and credits; the local soviets ensure that the people's monetary incomes and expenditures are balanced in their territory.

Funds from the people, in the form of stock shares, are utilized extensively to develop the republic's national economy.

2.1.9. The activity of all republic banks, including the Vneshekombank, is conducted on a commercial basis.

2.1.10. Statistics are kept on the price index, and pensions, grants and other benefits are increased in accordance with its rise through the territory's budget.

2.2 Mutual Relationships with Union Organs of Authority [subhead]

2.2.1. The republic intends to delegate (entrust) the following public administration functions to organs of USSR state authority:

—maintenance of the state's defense capability and security;

—the conduct of national foreign policy; and

—the most important scientific and technical programs.

Funds of the appropriate amounts are allocated from the Latvian SSR's state budget to carry them out.

2.2.2. The republic link in the system of taxation provides for a single payment to the union budget from the republic. The financial relationships of all enterprises and organizations in the republic's territory are only with the republic or local budget.

2.2.3. The size of payments to the union budget is established at a session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the republic.

The size of the republic's population may be the basis for determining the single payment to the union budget. With the transition to the democratic system of forming organs of authority that is envisioned, the union republics themselves, in principle, may determine both the sum (to carry out the functions delegated by the republics to the union government) and the method of apportioning this payment to the union budget among the union republics.

2.2.4. In foreign trade and other spheres of economic activity, the republic coordinates the solution of different economic problems jointly with the USSR.

2.3. Foreign Economic Relations [subhead]

2.3.1. Enterprises, organizations, and production units [khozyaystva] in the republic have the right to establish direct economic ties with partners from foreign countries, to establish joint enterprises, and to carry out international commercial activity.

At enterprises with mixed ownership operating in the republic's territory, special laws and international agreements which stimulate or limit their activity are applied.

Favorable conditions are being created in the republic for investment by foreign capital, especially capital from Latvian emigrants, and to carry out various types of economic and scientific and technical activity.

2.3.2. It is necessary to shift to a system of practicable exchange rates in the republic and to open a market for free buying and selling of foreign exchange (a currency auction). This will enable enterprises, organizations, and production units which do not have economic ties with foreign partners to acquire foreign exchange and the necessary capital goods, services, and licenses with it.

Specialized associations, enterprises, and organizations may also utilize other forms and conditions for the purchase of imported commodities to sell in the republic for foreign currency (organizing the sale of commodities delivered by foreign firms under commercial credit conditions, sales in accordance with catalogs and samples, and developing trade with foreign firms' credit cards).

2.3.3. One of the sources of foreign exchange is the tax on foreign trade turnover which is being introduced (including in port cities).

2.3.4. The republic government establishes the amount of customs duties on goods imported into the republic.

2.3.5. The question of forming a free economic zone—an SEZ (for which joint ventures with other countries may become the basis)—will have to be studied in the near future, and the appropriate customs and tax legislation will have to be drafted. The SEZ is also utilized as a proving ground for economic experiments (elements of labor and wage reform, management of economic systems, and so forth).

ORGANIZING MANAGEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC'S ECONOMY

3.1. Further changes in management organization in the republic are objectively determined by gradual changes in the status of the primary unit—the production enterprise and the economic organization. In the first stage, enterprises operate in conformity with the Law on the State Enterprise (Association) and the Law on the Cooperative. Later on, the republic adopts its own law on the enterprise (including cooperatives, individual production units, and so forth). Changes in the enterprise's economic status will be as follows:

3.1.1. An enterprise, after making all payments to the budget stipulated by the law, as well as the contractual payments to other organizations and individual persons, allocates the incomes acquired using its own discretion and guided by economic expediency.

3.1.2. All enterprises form their own production programs independently on the basis of planning and commercial forecasts, the results of studying supply and demand, and assessment of the usefulness of possible alternatives. The volume of products or services, prices, delivery periods, specifications, and mutual economic responsibility for a penalty fully covering financial losses are set forth in direct agreements or contracts.

3.2. Under the conditions of economic operation indicated in Paragraph 3.1, sectorial production ministries and the various state committees which function as administration, allocation, and supervision centers will become unnecessary.

Associations, trusts, and main administrations may be organized only on an intersectorial basis at the initiative of independent enterprises and organizations. All the production staffing of administration "over" enterprises should be maintained with the assets of these independent enterprises, taking economic expediency into account.

A committee or ministry should be a state organ (department) which carries out the functions of state policy and inspection. Thus, the Agro-Industrial Committee (Ministry of the Agro-Industrial Complex) should implement state policy in the agrarian sector and perform the functions of state inspection (with respect to the organization of land use, veterinary affairs, seeds, security and labor safety procedures, and other matters) and of preparing and more precisely defining the system of economic levers (the level of prices and payments to the budget, conditions for extending credit, insurance and the payment of state subsidies, the procedure for realizing management's right to land, resolution of social security and insurance matters, and so forth). Expenditures to perform these functions are covered through the republic budget. A unified Ministry of Industrial Production may have similar status.

3.3. Ministries and committees are necessary to carry out the common functions of economic management: a Ministry of Finance, a Ministry of Labor and Social Security, and a State Committee for Nature Conservation.

A Scientific Economic Center for studying the trends of economic and social development in the republic (based on the Gosplan, the Goskomtsen [State Committee on Prices] and the Goskomstat [State Committee on Statistics], as well as the scientific research institutes and computer centers under their jurisdiction) is being established under the republic's Council of Ministers. This center works out alternatives in structure policy, plans for the major directions of development in the republic and scientific and technical progress; it carries out inductive planning (programming); it defines the limits of planning indicators for development of the republic toward which enterprises should be oriented, taking specific benefit into account; and it determines priorities in the form of capital investments and preferential taxes for sectors whose growth is of key importance in the government's estimation (agriculture, sectors which determine scientific and technical progress, tourism, and organizations oriented toward the foreign market), but whose profit declines as the result of changes in market conditions.

3.4. The republic's transition to cost accounting should be guaranteed by the appropriate political institutions and their independence and rights as well. Affirmation of the republic's sovereignty (the economic independence or cost accounting of the republic) in the area of the economy should be accompanied by adequate changes in politics and culture, which requires radical restructuring of sociopolitical and internal party affairs in conformity with the resolutions of the 19th all-union party conference of the CPSU.

[Signed] The working group attached to the Latvian Komsomol Central Committee:

A. KALNYNSH [name as published] (group leader), YA. ABOLTYN, E. AMERIK, V. ANDREYEVA, D. BABULIS, V. BLINOV, I. FEYFERIS, D. KEKHRIS, I. PRIYEDITIS, E. SILINSH.

Riga, 30 August 1988.

Paper Corrects Report on Latvian Language Use

PM1410152188 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 14 October 1988 carries on page 4 under the headline "Correction" an apology for an error in an article carried on page 4 of the same newspaper on 12 October. The original article, entitled "Symbols of Old Riga" and written from that city by own correspondent V. Proskura, reads in full as follows:

"The Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has approved the combination of the colors red-white-red as the historical and cultural symbol of the Latvian people. It may be used in the form of a flag, pennants, emblems, and badges. Flags colored red-white-red will adorn people's and labor festivals and will be flown on ceremonial days.

"The republic's Supreme Soviet has also adopted a decision on the status of the Latvian language—it has been recognized as the state language on the territory of the Latvian SSR. Russian will be used for federal relations [otnosheniy]."

The correction indicates that the last sentence should be replaced by the following paragraph:

"When dealing with state organs, institutions, and organizations citizens will be able to choose between Latvian and Russian for communication or the completion of documents. Russian will be used for federal dealings. [snosheniy]."

The report ends by noting that the journalist has been reprimanded for "inaccuracy."

Shaumyan's Views on Nationalities Recalled

PM1410150088 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 88 First Edition p 3

[Article by Candidate of Historical Sciences A. Smolnikov: "'Live, Fight, and Win!' On the 110th Anniversary of S.G. Shaumyan's Birth"]

[Excerpts] Familiar from childhood with the tough life of workers and peasants in the Transcaucasus and having experienced the trials of social injustice, at the age of 17

Stepan Shaumyan had already proclaimed his creed: "Live, Fight, Win...." And he took it through life with him, a life that was devoted until the last breath to service of the great goal, the cause of socialist revolution, the struggle for the establishment of Leninist ideas. [passage omitted]

An active participant in the first Russian revolution and member of the Caucasus union committee, Shaumyan organized strikes and demonstrations by workers in Baku, Tiflis [now Tbilisi], and Erivan [now Yerevan] and revolutionary actions by peasants. Having acquired political experience as a leader of the Transcaucasian Bolsheviks, he consistently defended Lenin's assessment of the nature, motive forces, and prospects of the revolution. Because of his arrest and subsequent exile to Astrakhan, Shaumyan could not take part in the Sixth (Prague) All-Russian Confererence of the RSDRP [Russian Social Democratic Workers Party]. But among the decisions of this party forum, which had the significance of a congress, it is recorded that Shaumyan was appointed, in absentia, candidate member of the party Central Committee. [passage omitted]

Shaumyan did much to strengthen the friendship of the Transcaucasian working people and to strengthen their unity with the Russian people.

He made particular efforts to ensure that proletarian organizations, and first and foremost the party of the working class, were based on an international footing. Along with Lenin's other comrades-in-arms, Shaumyan exposed Bund federalism, Armenian "specifism," and other varieties of nationalism that sought to scatter the workers' forces and disunite them on the grounds of nationality. While upholding the nations' right to self-determination, Shaumyan always opposed the separation of Transcaucasia from Russia. Even before the October Revolution he demonstrated the need for the peoples of Transcaucasia to develop alongside the Russian people.

However, while defending from Marxist standpoints the Bolshevik program on the nationalities issue, S.G. Shaumyan was guilty of certain inaccuracies in interpreting the definition and origin of the nation and on the question of the state language and oblast autonomy. In spite of this, S.G. Shaumyan's works are a concrete embodiment of the unity of the theory and practice of proletarian internationalism. With tremendous force of conviction, he boldly and mercilessly exposed the true face of those who sought to disunite the working people and infect them with the pernicious influence of bourgeois nationalism. "Nationalism and opportunism," he wrote, "these are the most accursed enemies of Marxism, and it is not surprising that, like two sisters, they are always linked and always embracing each other."

These words are relevant in our day too. [Following passage is omitted from similar version carried in PRAVDA 13 October Second Edition] Complex questions of ethnic relations can only be resolved within the framework of a democratic process and the rule of law, without permitting the slightest detriment to the internationalist cohesion of the Soviet peoples or allowing these very serious matters of the people's future to fall prey to spontaneous forces or emotions of any kind. [passage omitted]

Moscow Radio Criticized, 'At Odds With Glasnost'

PM1110104588 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 7 Oct 88 p 8

[Candidate of Historical Sciences V. Ostrogorskiy article under the rubric "Between Us Professionals": "At a Turn of the Radio Dial...."]

[Text] According to information from usually well-informed sources, the prices of foreign-made radio sets on the capital's "black market" have fallen. Unfortunately, not because of an improvement in the quality of Soviet radio equipment. No, the foreign stuff remains more reliable and looks and sounds better. But this is not the only thing that people have usually paid for. The foreign sets have bands below 25 meters, for which the All-Union State Standard makes no provision. Shortwave bands on which it is more difficult to muffle "voices from over the hill." But now the jamming has been partly stopped, and there are fewer people who like to listen to Western broadcasts. This has hit the speculators.

Our press used to write tirelessly that the "voices" lied. But they also spoke the truth: about the crimes of Stalin and his associates, corruption during Brezhnev's times, the authorities' tyranny, economic stagnation, and the suppression of creative freedom.

Western broadcasting was supposed to crush our morale and undermine our faith in socialism. But the planned result was always far from achieved. The point is that the experts in subversive broadcasting underestimated their target audience's devotion to socialism's ideals. The bitter truth—and from such mouths—aroused in many people not dismay but shame and anger. The shame and anger which, to use Marx' words, make a nation like a tiger, crouching ready to spring.

Now, so Western newspapers write, the "voices" do not know what to do. The speculators specializing in reselling foreign radio equipment are not the only ones hit by glasnost.

Unfortunately, our own "voice" is also at odds with glasnost. I mean our external broadcasting, which is usually called Moscow Radio. It is the world's biggest external broadcasting service. It broadcasts for more than 200 hours a day in 63 languages. It has been in existence since 1929.

It was not only lies that the Western "voices" used to broadcast. It was not only the truth that our "voice" broadcast or, in any event, not the whole truth. We draped our country in "bridal white" while portraying

the West in black paint. But our audience abroad knew that the paradise on earth just did not exist. Naturally, its confidence in our broadcasts declined.

And yet people did listen to us, despite our clumsy propaganda, which could not, of course, be better than the general ideological situation in our country allowed. They listened to us because we proved right on the chief point. As we had promised, we built an industry, defeated the aggressor, and raised the country from the ruins.

Nevertheless, the gap between propaganda and reality took its toll. It is hard to judge with confidence the effectiveness of radio broadcasts, particularly on a foreign audience. But still, indirect indicators do exist. One of them is the amount and the dynamics of mail from listeners. Thus: We still receive few letters from foreign listeners....

The worst thing is that the situation has not changed substantially over the past 3 years, either. Our press is now in great demand, not only under our own skies but also abroad. Big firms are making a business out of translating PRAVDA into foreign languages. Everyone wants to know how restructuring is going. But they are reluctant to take our own information, which is free and comes with home delivery. There has been no substantial increase in responses to broadcasts, and we are making little progress up the popularity scale.

We are inclined to seek an explanation for circumstances beyond our control. In the expansion of television, for example. But why then are the "voices" continuing to reap a good harvest in those same parts of the world where we, by all accounts, are failing to win an audience? People also talk about our broadcasts' bad audibility, blaming the Ministry of Communications, which operates the radio transmitters. But why are there not more responses even from countries where we can be heard well?

I believe it is still a matter of our own work. Of the fact that we are restructuring only slowly. And that includes the organization of our work.

Our organizational structure, created in past decades, remains inviolate. It resembles the structure of any industrial ministry which produces circular letters of instruction. Official stamps are put on the texts of radio programs, as on outgoing papers. And the last, most important stamps are put on by leading figures, who frequently have a very vague idea of the audience for which the broadcasts are intended, or even about creative radio journalism as a whole.

Each of us knows from his own experience that a chatty radio program marked by the author's individual style is well-received. But the pyramid of official stamps is incompatible with a chatty and individual style. Smooth and sleek—in the worst sense of the word—newspaper texts are more open to this. It turns a magnificent fir tree into a featureless telegraph pole.

We have many unique specialists who know the foreign audience and its interests and tastes, who possess journalistic skills, and who have mastered foreign languages to perfection. You might think: Give them the microphone and let them speak freely about the way our people live.

The hypertrophied control apparatus, created mainly during the times when ugly uniformity was being propagated and the sterile, semi-official nature of broadcasting was being cultivated, is like a ball and chain. Regardless of the intentions of its functionaries, it gives rise to overcaution and the attitude that "no good will come of it." No wonder we lag behind the press—even though the radio, if it wants to be successful, must be ahead of the press. Who is interested in listening in the evening to what he was able to read in the newspaper that same morning?

I do not understand why on the Western "voices" hot news items go right into the live studio from the teletype machine, while in our stations people carry them round half a dozen offices beforehand. I do not understand why the foreign radio commentator responds on the air to an event immediately after he has learned of it, while I get to do so, at best, the next day. More accurately, I do not see the point of this.

However, it is a matter not only of organizational but also of psychological restructuring, of our very approach to radio broadcasting to a foreign audience. For some reason it has hitherto been considered that we must be guided not by the interests of the listener, tuning into our wavelength to learn more about our country than he can derive from national sources of information, but by some "higher interests." And for some reason those who believe that "no good will come of it" propose that we can conceal from the foreign listener even facts which our newspapers have carried.

So we still have some primitive model of glasnost in operation. For some reason people think that we at Moscow Radio do not need full-scale glasnost. They say that it is unprofitable, propaganda-wise, to practice glasnost. But it is very profitable! There is nothing more profitable than truthfulness, sincerity, and directness. Particularly as our silences and embellishments are now as obvious as a stain on a clean shirt.

The use in our broadcasts of the PRAVDA 5 April editorial article showed how far overcautiousness goes. That article, which aroused tremendous interest abroad, was broadcast to many countries in a version less than two typewritten pages long. No more than a few percentage points of that day's broadcasting time were allocated

to it. Even bourgeois newspapers gave a far wider account of it. Why, one wonders, should the foreign listener tune into our wavelength?

Restructuring is taking place here not only more slowly than in the press, but also more slowly than in television and domestic radio, which come under the same department as we do. The reason for our laggardness is that our neighbors are urged on by letters from viewers and listeners and newspaper reviews. But our audience is a long way away. It usually reacts to our miscalculations not with indignant letters but by turning the dial of the radio set, since there is a tremendous choice on the air. And as for reviews in the press, our external broadcasting is for some reason a taboo subject, as though we were engaged in some secret or not-quite-proper activity. Only on big festivals have articles appeared under titles like "The Entire World Listens to the Voice of Moscow," and they have tried to pass off the wish as the reality.

There is absolutely no weighty reason to keep the work of our external broadcasting secret. It is, at the same time, impossible to conceal its shortcomings: They are obvious to every intelligent person abroad listening to Moscow Radio. Moreover, open discussion of our work and its correction by the public can only enhance our prestige.

After all, does our public really not have the right to know how life in this country is portrayed in transmissions abroad? Does it not have the right to make corrections to that picture?

So, do the "voices" have a future? Radio is by its nature an irreplaceable means of communication among peoples, among people of different countries. The spoken word over the radio is imbued with human warmth—if, of course, it is a free and honest word. And intelligible even to an illiterate person.

In a world which has put an end to confrontation and which is united by the resolution of common tasks, international radio broadcasting has a great future. But only if it adapts to the new conditions and new requirements. If it overcomes the archaic desire to "make propaganda," which boils down to embellishing one's own physiognomy and blackening other people's.

It is hard to say when the Western "voices" will finally realize that picking at other people's wounds has become an inopportune and pointless occupation. Particularly taking into account the new information situation in our country marked by the stamp of openness and glasnost.

But, in any event, we ourselves must lose no time. Our "voice" over the international air must show more vividly and fully the scope and depth, the passion and idea of restructuring. It must become a genuine mouthpiece of revolution.

This will help to make up for lost time, to make our radio popular abroad once again, and, in the final analysis, to make a contribution to strengthening the USSR's prestige in the international arena.

TV Program Features Human Rights Discussion

OW1310134888 [Editorial report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0705 GMT on 8 October presents the scheduled 70-minute program, "Secrets of the Third Basket." The program is presented by Galina Shergova, who says that it comprises "footage hitherto not shown on Soviet television" and deals primarily with human rights issues. It begins with shots of the Reagans on Red Square. Shergova begins by pointing out that during the recent Reagan visit to Moscow, the question of human rights in the Soviet Union was a topic frequently raised by journalists. She goes on to say that the negotiations conducted between the two countries behind closed doors can be legitimately classified as state secrets. However, for many years secrets of the so-called "third basket" have existed to prevent the public from knowing that which it had a legitimate right to know.

A.L. Adamishin, USSR deputy foreign minister, explains that the origin of the term "the third basket" can be traced to the Helsinki agreement, when the substance of discussions at the talks were conditionally divided into three—the first part dealing with political and military matters, the second with economic matters, and everything else, including such subjects as cultural exchanges, human rights, and other humanitarian matters, labeled as the "third basket." He says: "The very question of discussing the human rights question is an innovation which, together with restructuring, has entered into our foreign policy. In my opinion, real improvement in the human rights issue in all countries occurred as a result of bilateral cooperation in this field."

Video then cuts to show scenes of dissidents invited to attend a dinner at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow during Reagan's visit. Security personnel are seen checking invitations, followed by shots of the guests seated at several tables. Some are seen wearing skullcaps, others are dressed in priestly robes. Shergova points out that Reagan was free to invite whoever he wished to dine with him, but expresses regret that he chose to make his address on the human rights issue to a limited audience. This matter, she says, "concerns all of us." Reagan is then seen making his address. Shergova provides a summary of the speech, in which Reagan says that some 300 religious prisoners have recently been released, and large numbers were allowed to leave the country to be reunited with their families. The United States welcomes these steps, but there is still room for improvement, especially in the area of freedom of religion, speech, and migration. She says: "Let us find out what of the points made by Reagan is no longer applicable, what has changed, and what remained unchanged and is cause for concern."

Video cuts to show shots of the Central Visa and Registration Administration (OVIR) where a number of people are seen to be filling out application forms. Shergova says that this agency used to be known as the "house of refusal." Today, the number of applicants is significantly less. Camera focuses on a young couple receiving exit visas for Israel. The young man is asked why has he decided to leave. He answers that he finds living in a country where theoretically his son could never become secretary general of the CPSU or the head of state intolerable. Shergova expresses concern that this young man should feel that he is not wanted in the Soviet Union and adds that the possibility of isolated occurrences of anti-Semitism cannot be discounted. Several others give different answers on what motivated them to leave, most of them, as Shergova points out, being of a personal nature. One, however, said: "Let's say simply that I do not believe that restructuring will take place in the country."

Shergova goes on to say that the problem is no longer centered around those who wish to leave the country permanently, but around those waiting for tourist visas. Video shows long lines of irate people complaining about red tape and bureaucracy. S.I. Alpatov, Moscow head of OVIR, agrees that the situation is not good and that the number of people who expressed the desire to travel abroad exceeded all expectations and that his administration is having difficulty coping with the work load.

I.D. Laptev, chief editor of IZVESTIYA, is shown talking in his office. He begins by saying that his newspaper, in response to numerous charges by the Western press of psychiatric abuse in the Soviet Union, had investigated the matter and had submitted a number of recommendations to the USSR Council of Ministers. As the result of this, steps have been taken and the "question no longer exists."

Video then cuts to shots of the Kazan hospital for the criminally insane showing a gray building with heavily barred windows. A small room containing five beds, three of them occupied, is seen on the screen. The camera moves to show a treatment room where a psychiatrist interviews a young patient who is sitting with his back to the camera. The doctor says that the patient was arrested for perpetuating a number of explosions which, the patient says, was done by him so as to "influence public consciousness" during the period of stagnation. Shergova says that it is ludicrous to think that terrorism is a viable weapon against evil, but social injustices will not disappear merely because the protester is labeled insane. Another video clip shows an inmate, since released, who was arrested for keeping a list of social injustices that he had witnessed. Shergova says that there is no doubt that mistakes have been made, but warns that there are those who are here for acts that would rival "Hitchcock horrors," but adds: " Certainly, psychiatric abuse is known to have taken place."

Video cuts to show A.A. Churkin, chief psychiatrist at the USSR Ministry of Health, who admits that psychiatry is not an exact science and that psychiatric abuse is possible. This being the case, "that situation which prevailed in the society at that time could have affected the decisions of the doctors. This was the time of mass obedience and the desire to please superiors, and under these conditions such instances were quite possible." He goes on to say that before 1955 there was a statute which held doctors criminally responsible for maliciously committing someone to a mental institution for any reason other than for medical reasons. This law has recently been reactivated.

Video cuts to show two journalists, A. Bogomolov and Peter Aphett, speaking. Bogomolov says that while in the United States he witnessed a womens wrestling match in which one of the participants was depicted as an agent of the KGB. He found this to be insulting and discriminatory. Aphett agrees but says that Soviet television uses similar distortions. He then outlines the unfair and untrue reporting on the U.S. homeless. He says that the charge that nobody cares is simply untrue. Also, similar problems do exist in the Soviet Union, particularly in Moscow, where a large number of homeless, some of whom he interviewed, are destitute. Both journalists then agree that there is a fair amount of distortion on both sides.

Video cuts to show Reagan, accompanied by clergy, visiting a monastery, speaking to priests, followed by shots showing a meeting of the Soviet Peace Committee, presided over by Genrikh Borovik, discussing the general topic of freedom of worship which, says Borovik, also includes freedom from worship. Video shows clergy representing several denominations in lively debate. Various opinions are expressed regarding the effect of restructuring on freedom of worship. There is a general consensus that religious freedom has been greatly reinforced since restructuring was launched. Video cuts to show service in churches, synagogue, and mosques. Video then shows the well-publicized appearance of Reagan at the Moscow State University. One of the issues raised was the question of the treatment of native Americans. Reagan's answer, according to Shergova, did not satisfy the majority of the students present. A.S. Grachev, chief of the CPSU Central Committee propaganda section, agrees and reads several letters, written by U.S. citizens, who were scandalized by Reagan's inability to admit that the United States, like other countries, has "national sins." One of the letter writers says that this was an opportunity to forge a relationship and establish understanding on mutual cooperation in facilitating human rights progress in both countries.

Video moves to show brief interviews with several more personalities speaking in general terms about the marked progress made in recent times in the realm of human rights. The general consensus is that much has been achieved, and much more can be achieved. Shortcomings in human rights have been noted in the Soviet

Union and the progress made in the country is not because someone else had pointed them out, but because time makes its own demands, and the time has now arrived to insure that those mistakes that were made will never be repeated.

The program ends with shots of Gorbachev and Reagan walking together on Red Square, meeting and talking to the people. Galina Shergova concludes the program by saying that mankind can only benefit from continuous cooperation, mutual understanding, and tolerance.

Foreign Language Radio Open for Advertising
LD1410130288 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Our air waves are being opened ever wider for advertising, and this is obviously one of the signs of restructuring and the new approaches in our work and in the function of radio as a whole. Radio is the most accessible, rapid, and comparatively inexpensive channel for advertising purposes. The living word, with its richness of intonation, is always intelligible and convincing to the ear. We are receiving more and more requests on the rendering of paid services for broadcasting advertising material, and this material is already producing results. Advertising information helps the manufacturer find the consumer and the consumer meet his demand. And we are frankly pleased that we are taking a specific part in widening the market of goods and services.

At the same time many enterprises, organizations, and cooperatives with their technology, goods, and services are today seeking outlets to international markets and foreign partners. We would like to help them in this matter. This time we are pointing you, comrades, in the direction of our colleagues who broadcast to foreign countries at Moscow radio, whose programs go out in 63 foreign languages with over 230 hours a day of air time. The radio station has a wide audience of listeners—160 countries and territories of the world. Moscow radio broadcasts a part of its programs in 12 main languages—English, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Chinese, Japanese, Hindi, Arabic, and a number of others—on the medium wave direct to the capital for foreigners coming to our country to work at diplomatic and trade missions, at international symposiums, exhibitions, and festivals, and also as tourists and ordinary individuals. In all, this amounts to tens of thousands of representatives of foreign countries, most of whom are business people, your potential partners for cooperation.

And so, Moscow radio offers its air waves for advertising in foreign languages. If you are interested in this advertising channel, call this number: 233-66-60. Or write to: 113-326 Moscow, Pyatnitskaya Ulitsa, 25, foreign broadcasting, director of programs.

Health Minister's Pre-Congress Remarks Noted
LD1410153888 Moscow TASS in English 1451 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—Vital problems of the public health service in conditions of the restructuring of social and economic life in the country will be the centrepiece of discussions at the national congress of medics that opens here Monday. This has been stated by Academician Yevgeniy Chazov, minister of public health of the USSR, ahead of the forum of Soviet medics.

Assessing the accomplishments of the Soviet public health service in the past 70 years, Academician Chazov pointed out in a TASS interview that a powerful state system of public health had been created in the USSR. It effectively ensures free medical assistance to all. Some 1.2 million physicians are working in this system, middle-echelon medical personnel numbers 3.3 million. The system boasts hospitals and clinics with a total capacity of 3.7 million beds.

At the same time, Academician Chazov admitted that the state of public health in the USSR was being criticized, and with good reason, for insufficient professionalism of medical workers, the shortage of modern medical equipment and medicinal preparations. This situation was brought about by the fact that during the past several decades the resources allocated for public health were actually the ones that were left after the meeting of other requirements of society.

Yevgeniy Chazov, 59, who was appointed minister of public health in February 1987, took an active part in the drawing up of the program "guidelines of the protection of people's health and of the restructuring of the Soviet public health system in the 12th Five-Year-Plan period and in a period ending in 2000". The fulfilment of the program is ensured by major material resources: 190 billion roubles will be channeled to public health from the state budget for a period ending in 1995. Priority in financing will be given to the introduction of advanced medical technologies, technical reequipment of hospitals and polyclinics and the creation of medical institutions fitted out with the most up-to-date medical instruments. The output of medical equipment will go up by 2.5 times in the current five-year-plan period (1986-1990). It is planned to fully meet the demand in medicaments by 1993.

Touching upon new forms of management and financing in the Soviet public health system, the minister pointed out the expediency of the introduction of cost accounting. "The experience of the 'microsurgery of the eye' complex that performs unique operations on an 'industrial' basis shows that cost accounting can be successfully used in the network of state medical institutions", Academician Chazov said. He pointed out in this connection that it was planned to increase the volume of paid medical services on the basis of encouraging individual

practice and creating medical cooperatives. "Paid medical services will supplement a guaranteed level of free medical aid and by no means will replace them", Academician Chazov emphasized.

Role of 'Non-Official Groups' Considered

PM1310110488 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 40, 2 Oct 88 pp 8-9

[Interview with USSR Academy of Sciences State and Law Institute member Nina Belyayeva and Democratic Perestroyka Club council member Andrey Fadin by Leonid Miloslavskiy: "A Place for Non-Officials"—date, place not given; first three paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] It has to be admitted that newspapers today are failing to keep up with news about non-official movements. Now and then reports of a usually informational-sensational character appear. But they give no idea about the character, scope or purposes of these independent movements springing up in our country. Public opinion is also not hurrying to come up with any profound or balanced assessments of this phenomenon.

What part do independent movements have to play in society, in its present-day renewal? How does this new fit into the existing system of relations which took shape the day before yesterday, but already yesterday was formalized in legal norms? How do civic initiatives influence the development of society and state, what impact are they subjected to on the part of legal mechanism, and in what way do they themselves contribute to the development of the law?

"MN" correspondent Leonid Miloslavskiy's questions are answered by Nina Belyayeva, cand. sc. (law), staff member of the Insitute of the State and Law of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and Andrey Fadin, council member of the Democratic Perestroyka Club.

MN: Quite often one hears it said that non-official groups have been born of perestroyka. That new forms of civic activity have started appearing all suddenly like mushrooms after a rain. But, as we all know, non-official groups existed even prior to 1985; if we continue the analogy with mushrooms there existed—virutally outside the bounds of law—a spawn which had awaited rain for many long years. Therefore, my first question—what were the "non-officials" like in their earlier years? What part did they play in the previous social structure?

Andrey Fadin: Non-officials, i.e., groups officially non-existent for the state, have always existed in one shape or another in society. During hard times it was easier to survive spiritually (I am judging from my own experience) in the circle of your "spiritual kith and kin" where human contacts and joint searches for solutions to the most intricate questions of the time lightened the weight of a stagnating press. Many—both past and present—ecological, political and other groups and clubs sought and are still seeking to achieve the status of public initiatives enjoying state recognition. And the notion of self-reliant public initiative much better conveys the meaning of the phenomenon to which we have given the vague name of "non-official". Actually, "non-official groups"—a considerable part of the youth "rock culture" and subculture (hippies, rockers, punks, heavy metal fans, etc.)—are currents which are unformalizable in principle. This is a phenomenon of global scale, if you like, in contrast to public initiatives which have not yet received official recognition—a domestic and strictly specific phenomenon.

Nina Belyayeva: I believe that a major function fulfilled by previous non-official groups was to reserve the little islands for free thinking.

The main hero of Yuriy Trifonov's novel The Other Life, looking for an explanation to this rebellious nature that rejects falsehood of any kind, trying to come to know the particulars of his ancestors, from fugitive peasants to a St. Petersburg student "who longed for a change and justice", suddenly comes to understand: "Seething and foaming in each of them was one thing—unrest, unacceptance. This is something that cannot be eradicated by anything—by chopping, whipping or centuries." Our historical non-official groups also made their contribution to the preservation of this breed of people. The fact that the legal system found no substantiation for their activities has made them "unofficially willy-nilly", and given a position as outsiders.

MN: What kind of legal substantiation and scientific explanation can be given for the non-official groups' activities today? Are there any objective criteria by which they could be appraised and compared? Scientists evidently must have their recommendations on this score.

N.B.: The division into "ours" and "not ours", if you bear this in mind, the contrasting of "good non-official groups" to "bad ones" can only lead to confrontation—this is a road leading to stalemate. The more so that "good ones" are often understood as "convenient", "pocket" associations which are not infrequently encouraged to counterbalance the "inconvenient ones". However, from the standpoint of law, there is a need to base our approach to such associations on the relationship between their proclaimed goals and the Constitution. The difficulty is, it is true, that some organizations—Pamyat, for one—formally, in their rules, proclaim a strict observance of legality, although in practice they go out of their way to violate the Constitution. Therefore it is not some association as a whole that should be considered "illegal", but the specific actions of this or that person violating the law, for instance, those who preach racism.

The need for a serious classification is linked to the emergence of our new pseudopublic opinion. Whereas the old one, personified by traditional public organizations, often accepted and justified everything, the new

one resists everything without any discrimination, while representing a fairly narrow circle of people formed on the principle of self-nomination.

The ease with which a new union, association or even party is proclaimed totally deprives some organizers of a sense of responsibility. And now some incipient group of five, choosing some prestigious-sounding name for importance's sake, begins to speak out everywhere on behalf of a "movement" or "front".

I believe that it would be useful—for the characterization of social groups—to apply the concept of social identity (suggested by our psychologists) to characterize political leaders, including the leaders of non-official structures. Social identity for the group as a whole will mean how far the given association really reflects the opinion of this or that social stratum or one or another sector of public opinion with which it identifies itself. In other words: How "popular", for instance, is the Moscow Popular Front, and can the Ecology and Peace Association, set up at the Soviet Peace Committee, represent all the various environmental groups, posts and volunteer squads at the international level?

MN: How do you think it is possible to explain peoples' involvement in non-official movements? Why do the ranks of non-official groups keep growing?

A.F.: Let us return once again to the sources. In the past the narrow channels of society's official organization, assembled on the ruins of NEP, failed to accommodate even a small fraction of unorganized social activity.

The capital, earned during the years of ordeals and monstrous strain of the people's efforts, was not demanded by the system of social organization. But energy had to break through—and it did break through across a different channel. Perestroyka has made it possible to politicize independent social subjects. Ecologists and lawyers, Esperantoists and "improvers" all rushed to "make politics" and laid claim to an independent role in power relations. Perhaps, this was occasioned by the so long suppressed spirit of contradiction and "unacceptance". Although most existing non-official associations, having constructive "accompanying" programmes, oppose concrete phenomena and not everything "without discrimination".

MN: Researchers have noted the main functions of these non-official groups: a barometer of public opinion, a channel for the expression of social requirements, and a laboratory of management. How do today's non-official groups cope with this role?

N.B.: One can say that our movements are rather successful as barometers. Suffice it to recall the wave of mass meetings that swept the whole country when delegates to the 19th party conference were elected (in Moscow, Leningrad, Omsk, Yaroslavl, the Sakhalin island...). This is a vivid example of how public opinion outpaced the press—newspaper "discoveries" on the results of mass meetings and rallies.

The "ecology movement", which suddenly opened up on us from its various sides, is indicative. The number of ecological associations, their level of activity, determination, competence and coordinated action have been rapidly growing. This bears witness to the movement's definite level of maturity and cultural standards. But, on the other hand, it attests to the neglected state of our ecological problems, which are being tackled at an impermissibly slow pace.

Our movements are not yet active enough as a channel for giving vent to public opinion. In part, this is due, of course, to the lack of a carefully considered legal basis and mechanism for expressing this opinion. But the "vagueness" of the social basis of the movements themselves also has its effect.

But as far as the social technologies of management are concerned, the creative return is the maximum. Paradoxical though it is, lawyers bear a definite part of the "blame" for this success. The lack of a normal legal basis has compelled sponsors to act on the principle that "necessity is the mother of invention" by combining various norms and contriving their own.

Unique models of organized creative effort, enterprise and ingenuity are born in the process. Here are but two examples: The Sokolniki experimental creative association in Moscow, failing to find enough room in any of the regulating acts, has combined in its structure a training studio for novices and a club for the lovers of literature, music and the theatre, tying all this in with collective creative labour and realizing its results on a profit-and-loss basis.

The Epitsentr association in Leningrad is non-official in the traditional sense as well, having neither a bank account nor an official seal. But neither is there a need for this. For its principal mission is to be an information centre and bring out a hand-written magazine in which all groups concerned can post their advertisements, exchange the latest news and debate. This unique structure, comprising groups with the most diverse ideological orientations, owes its stability to the absence of centralism. The council passed decisions on coordinating common programmes on the concensus principle—with the participation of only those who supported the given programme. This taught them not to press ahead to "secure a majority", but to look for real ways of cooperation—for instance, between ecologists and hippies, who formed the "green-hip" association.

MN: And my last question is about the official structure's attitude towards non-official groups.

A.F.: It's a serious question. It's a pity that in the absence of legal norms it still has to be decided not in the most convenient conditions, but in street conflicts, in clashes of views and emotions. It is clear that the authorities are worried about the non-official groups' increased activity, claiming that the latter "interfere with management", "do not mind their own business", cause "disorganization", etc. But a policy such as the art of reciprocal dovetailing of interests is impossible without the existence of social subjects who are independent and different.

Seeking access to power relations, non-officials take part in laying the foundations of a civic society in which power would not be alienated from anyone willing to coparticipate in it, and no one will be in a position to order people to act against their convictions.

N.B.: It is not in doubt that legal issues have to be decided without any further delay, but neither with undue haste. There is a need to begin with a Law on Volunteer Associations of Citizens of the USSR, which must indicate all of their types and delineate the framework of their legal status in order to specify it later in special acts on creative unions, volunteer societies, etc.

But it is also important to note the following. Quite often the non-official groups are themselves unprepared for setting up organizations or to make competent use of their right to legal advice. It is often the acquisition of the legal status, especially when this is premature, when the organization itself with its structure has not yet been set up, that marks the beginning of public organizations turning bureaucratic.

Whether non-officials will be able to act just as vigorously and creatively in a legal coating is a major indicator of the vitality of their demands, the purity of their interests and the sincerity of their leaders. But simultaneously this is also a test for the establishment. A test for their ability to find contact and their readiness to work with initiatives. By this readiness it will be possible to judge whether they have been able to change their methods of leadership from "order-based" to "contractual" ones, and whether the district party committees and executive committees have learned to deal with organized, competent and exacting public opinion. The main thing, I believe, is that, while recognizing the non-officials immense creative potential, our entire "formalized" system should stop being on the defensive against them. It should change the image it has of non-official "enemies", to, if not an image of a friend, then at least to that of a partner or opponent with the right to have its own voice. Public organizations and movements are called upon to become such a constructive opposition. Disputes with them will prevent a return to the times when theirs was one solely correct point of view.

Public Rally Debates Restructuring Issues

WA18280094 Moscow TRUD in Russian
27 Aug 88 p 2

[Article by N. Nadezhdina, TRUD special correspondent: "Yaroslavl: We Are Solving Things Together"; first paragraph is TRUD introduction]

[Text] There is talk about the multi-person meetings and discussions taking place at the Yaroslavl Shimnika Stadium that have spread far beyond the city limits. Five to six thousand persons listen to the speakers. And these speakers, not talking from notes but from their hearts, are talking about something painful.... The movement of further restructuring—the newly installed element in our life. Let us take a little closer look at this public initiative.

The origin. The fact that we are speaking about is generally known. However, we must recall it. On the evening of 8 June, on the embankment, upon the appeal of an initiative group, thousands of Yaroslavl citizens gathered to demand the disfranchisement of mandate for F. Loshchenkov, delegate to the 29th party conference and former secretary of the party obkom. By that time almost 40 party organizations in the oblast had demanded his recall. No one, however, was in any hurry to heed their voices. Here, at a bitter meeting, they said: How can one trust a mandate for a person who, after 25 years of leading the oblast, has left agriculture in a state of collapse, broken-down houses and long queues for housing, and hospitals in a disastrous state....

Still, the people's opinion had to be taken into account. After a week a party obkom plenum was held and by secret ballot Loshchenkov was removed from the number of delegates to the conference. The point in the long-dragged-out conflict had been made. This story, however, has become an object-lesson not only for the obkom, but also for the city's inhabitants. The people appreciated the fact that, in reality, something depends on them.

The awakened activity of the public did not subside; it gained further development. At a meeting 10 days later held at the Palace of Artists, a program of action was adopted and an organizing committee was formed. One of its members—I. Shamshev, a senior teacher of philosophy at Yaroslavl University and secretary of the party organization of the Department of Social Sciences—told me that this voluntary, amateur public movement, existing within the framework of the Constitution, was dedicated to furthering the party course toward restructuring, and therefore came out against stagnancy, power abuse, and lack of consideration for humanity.... This movement has called itself the "national front"—obviously too pretentious a term, especially since it is acting within the bounds of Yaroslavl....

Discussion. The rain was coming down nonstop. The organizers were concerned: What if the discussion had been broken off? But at the appointed time the stand at

the stadium was showing the bright colors of many umbrellas. The participants in the movement sat this way for several hours in the rain, while there was a lively discussion of an important problem: How can each family be provided with a separate apartment by the year 2000? Upon the request of the organizing committee, V. Volonchunas and Ye. Buldin, deputy chairmen of the gorispolkom, spoke about the plans for construction that had been outlined, and how they would be carried out under the procedures of the municipal services. They were listened to gratefully: It is not often that the managing personnel of Yaroslavl meet with the people in this way....

Then they sent notes, one after the other the people went to the microphone. They spoke of painful subjects. Briefly. About the main things. Here there were no vacuous speeches, there was a 5-minute rule, no constraint by impatient bursts of applause asked for from the platform, even if you speak off the subject. While the matter, however, is being heard out, the members of the organizing committee take accurate notes in order to pose the question to the appropriate services. "Impure household and industrial discharges have contaminated Kotorosl and are contaminating the Volga...the storm sewers work poorly.... All the deadlines have passed for tearing down the wooden barracks on Pesochnaya Street, which are located in the sanitation zone of a feed mill.... In the rayon and city ispolkoms, citizen reception is unsatisfactorily organized and the people run up against formalism and callousness".... Therefore, if perhaps you cannot achieve anything, you take your woes here, to the city forum.

However, N. Mikhalev, gorsovet deputy and worker of the Yarstroy Trust, then comes to the microphone. A housing trust, he says, has been built for his workers, and almost a third of the apartments have been set aside. He reads out a list of illegal residents: the chief...the director...the manager.... The workers have been struggling for 8 months, but they didn't know where to turn—to the oblast council of trade unions, the trade union obkom, or the people's control. They were answered: The facts were confirmed.... Those at fault were brought up for party and disciplinary action...it was made cognizant that henceforth housing problems would be solved with public participation.... "And apartments?" they shout from the platform. They do not show their indignation in the most diplomatic way.... Right then, before your eyes, it is clear to everyone: If the deputy of the gorsovet is forced to appeal to the participants in the discussion in search of justice, this means that our public institutes are somehow seriously failing to work things out.

Perhaps herein lies the reason that public opinion is splashed about in, one could say, a semi-hushed manner. After all, if the soviets, trade unions, and other organizations behaved as they should under the conditions of restructuring, if they themselves went to the people, were interested in their opinion, and determined, with their aid, the painful points, then it would not be necessary for everyone to gather at the stadium and demand to be listened to. These discussions (incidentally, convened on a legal basis with the permission of the local authorities) show how deeply the Yaroslavl citizens are wounded by unjust decisions made in the silence of offices, the uninformedness, the omissions, how many misunderstandings have accumulated during the depression years, how they value their opportunity to speak openly about the things that are painful. If certain problems disturbing the townsmen are not solved in the soviets or the trade unions, the people appeal to the public organizations in this form, unaccustomed to us. This is what is happening, in a peculiar way, with the movement for social monitoring, quite exactingly posing specific questions to all the Yaroslavl official services. Is this perhaps connected with the guarded attitude toward the discussions of certain directors?

In the Offices. I spoke with V. Sokhin, deputy chairman of the oblispolkom, about the movement to further restructuring. "Our mottoes," he explained, "are really in the spirit of restructuring, but then after that? They do not want to be engaged in the specific acts and the problems that we are working on. But after all, these are the platitudes of life. Two "vaccination" hospitals have been allotted to the city, and one is now a maternity home and the other has changed over from an emergency building to a tuberculosis clinic. The Yaroslavl party gorkom set up hours to take telephone calls direct from the people. Gorkom secretaries are on duty, and they say during these times the receiver gets red hot. The former director of the base has been evicted from the illegally obtained quarters....

An even greater problem, however, awaits examination. It is suggested that a memorial museum be opened for the great Sobinov—the house where he lived is occupied by some sort of office—that the city dump adjacent to the Severnyy housing area be closed quickly, and that freer access be made to the party gorkom and obkom....

Specific matters? Yu. Markovin, a member of the organizing committee, teacher at a pedagogical institute, and one of the best lecturers in the city, of the Znaniye Society, marveled: "To arouse people's activity—is this not a specific, not a necessary matter? To teach freely, openly discuss the problems arising, have a debate with the directors and bring out the sore spots—is this not the point?"

There are specific matters, however, as Sokhin understands them. An ecological section was formed, its members met with scientists and outlined the sphere of concerns.... A group of young people was brought into a social club, "Restorer" ["Restabrator"]—on Saturdays they go out and help to restore an ancient monastery.... At the site of the first meeting, where on that memorable day the grass had been trampled down and flower beds smashed, they planted flowers. A trifle? Yet on Sunday, they went out to a suburban sovkhoz to weed beetroots.... A support cell was organized at the motor

plant—a group to cooperate in restructuring. Extremely interesting discussions are in progress there—"How and whom to select a work collective for the soviet," or, let us say, "Is it easy to be a young person at our plant?"—subjects very important for the enterprise. Incidentally, V. Smirnov, deputy secretary of the party committee for the plant, heads this work.

But the longer the conversation dragged on, the milder Sokhin became, giving the assurance: "No one will benefit by denying the movement, and it is good that people have begun to talk and are striving to participate more actively in all the city's public life. It is just that this is something new, and one has to become accustomed to it. Perhaps we will perceive it in a different way." Most likely there was a bit of irritation in its first evaluations: today against Loshchenkov, tomorrow, you will see, against somebody else....

I encountered approximately the same reaction at the trade union council. "They hung up a sheet of Whatman paper, and you write, they say, the last names of the bureaucrats," said S. Kuvakin, the trade union secretary. "So they write your last name, nice?" In general, though, the directors of the oblast trade unions feel that the questions raised by the participants in the movement pertain more to the party committees. How is it that thousands of people gather, but for the mass organizations—the trade unions—it is not their affair? Problems of housing distribution are raised, as well as those of recreation and medical treatment—vital, trade union concerns—but the trade union directors think that this has nothing to do with them? So it turns out that for things of this nature, the informal associations try to fill in the gaps and omissions in the work of the trade unions.

"But we are a professional organization," they explain, "our place is in the work collectives, not at the stadium." "And who gathers there, the idlers, what do you think?" I wonder. Sergey Nikolayevich defines it: "At the Third Plenum of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions they said that work must also be done with the informal organizations. We asked the members of the presidium to attend the discussions and to get oriented. This can give us food for thought. They must take a close look and then participate more actively. Right now this is entrusted to the party gorkom, but if they link up with us, we will take care of it."

They are waiting it out.... It is an unaccustomed situation, of course. But such things will constantly arise in the course of democratizing our life. You cannot get away from them....

Debate. One evening they invited me to a meeting of the organizing committee for the movement. Strictly speaking, the organizing committee is not rigid in structure. It assembles at the university and the doors are open to anyone who wants to come. There are sensible ideas and suggestions, and if you just want to take on a portion of the burden—come. It convenes twice a week, and the meetings are carried out one after another, all the same—to introduce ideas, fulfill commissions, and take on responsibility. For example, discussions of problems of combating bureaucracy and of glasnost are prepared through common efforts.

The next subject is the Food Program. Bricklayers from Yarstroy, kids from the motor plant and from the fuel equipment plant, colleagues from the institutes, teachers at the higher education institutions, and students came to the meeting. Sensible ideas were born: reveal how much foodstuff the oblast supplies to the center and how much subsidy it obtains, investigate the reliability of the storage and why it happens that the stores refuse to accept the vegetables. Who is concerned with the trade? Who assembles the figures?....

A. Baunov, deputy head of the party gorkom Department of Propaganda, came to the organizing committee with me. On the evening before, he had discussed the meeting with me for a long time, objectively. He did not hide the grievances: "We asked to print a questionnaire, promising that we would help. So they held back on me, they do not like to play their trump cards. But after all, I know—they are preparing something urgent for the discussion." T. Bondareva, the gorkom secretary—a vital, well-meaning person—spoke: "They are gathering to talk about the Food Program. How many times already have I met a young person in our dining hall—he copies out the menu, but we, after all, obtain orders in the shops just like all the city enterprises. In general, we would come in and discuss in advance—some sort of problems, and they would be taken up." But that is the whole point, that the members of the organizing committee do not want to "take up" questions in the offices. Let the directors report on it first. For whom are they working? Indeed, must they be disturbed by this? Here is the same menu and orders. Is it really forbidden to speak out to the workers in public catering and trade, to publicize a list of the products that the dining halls supply, and to bring the figures of the orders and their assortment. Objectively, authentically—it is a better remedy for any rumors.

The debate of directors of the city and oblast party organizations with the movement for furthering restructuring is already in progress. Meetings of the members of the organizing committee and the obkom and gorkom secretaries have been held. Workers on the party committees are participating in the discussions, and those gathering at the stadium listen very attentively to L. Karnakov, first secretary of the party gorkom. There are also quite a few mutual grievances, however. The members of the organizing committee have not been allowed into the session of the oblast soviet. The participants in the movement want to set up a display board with their information in the city—it is not turning out. The newspaper SEVERNYY RABOCHIY refuses to print announcements about the measures. But the directors of

the party organizations, in turn, are justified in reproaching the activists for the illegal generalizations and inauthentic information that are sometimes heard in the arguments, for inability to listen, the lack of respect sometimes displayed by the audience when the workers of the city organizations speak, and for the fact that the criticism, in their opinion, sometimes passes into carping. Well, what of it? Everyone must learn democracy....

After all, though, the teamwork is essentially just beginning, not only for the party organizations but for the soviets and the trade unions. The main thing is to establish a partnership with the informal associations; to overcome the distrust of an initiative not sanctioned from above; to investigate the nature of the problems raised by the workers. Let us not forget the words of the 19th party conference resolution: "Under the conditions that have historically formed in our country of a single-party system, the presence of a constant mechanism of free debate, criticism and self-criticism, of self-monitoring and self-evaluation in the party and society is a problem of vital importance."

PRAVDA Reports on Crime Conference

PM1710130788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
15 Oct 88 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Guarding the Capital's Peace"]

[Text] The state of social order and the fight against crime in Moscow are still unsatisfactory and grounds for serious concern from the inhabitants of the city. Urgent, resolute, and, above all, effective measures are needed to improve law and order and ensure close collaboration in this sphere between party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organs, social organizations, and labor collectives.

This was discussed at a 14 October conference of the capital's party and economic aktiv, which discussed the progress in fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the State of the Fight Against Crime in the Country and Additional Measures to Prevent Lawbreaking."

Muscovites, the speakers stressed, are entitled to demand more vigorous action and results in strengthening socialist legality. Priority should be given to radically improving the effectiveness of preventive activity. The professional standard of law enforcement organ cadres should be enhanced and the coordination of the actions of all services and subunits protecting social order should be improved. The general public, the population of suburban areas, and labor collectives should be actively involved. Central law enforcement organs should give Moscow considerable assistance in instilling order.

The tasks of strengthening legality and law and order should be carried out in complete accordance with the decisions of the 19th all-union party conference on legal reform and the legal backup for restructuring.

All law enforcement activity should be clearly measured against the new conditions of economic management, the democratization of social life, and the expansion of glasnost.

The conference was addressed by L.N. Zaykov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

Taking part in the conference were A.Ya. Sukharev, USSR prosecutor general, and the leaders of a number of ministries and departments.

Khorezm Kolkhoz Tackles Unemployment Problem

PM1410144988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
13 Oct 88 Second Edition p 2

[Article by Viktor Artemenko under the rubric "Own Correspondent Column": "Kolkhoz Plant"]

[Text] Uzbek SSR—In the ancient city of Khiva, at a bustling oriental bazaar, I happened to see a long line of people standing at an ordinary-looking stall. Customers were buying china and ceramic tableware, leather jackets and coats, fur hats, and embroidered skullcaps. I took a closer look. I discovered that the Narimanov Kolkhoz from Bagatskiy Rayon, Khorezm Oblast, was trading its own manufactured goods. The store chief gave such an enthusiastic account of his economic unit's subsidiary industries that I felt I wanted to see this kolkhoz industry for myself.

And it is indeed extensive. It has its own brickyard, china and ceramic shops, lime kiln, fur and leather treatment units, and others. All this makes it possible for the economic unit to quickly resolve any social problems. The construction team, which has 250 members, has recently commissioned more than 50 social and consumer projects. More than 6,000 square metres of housing have been built.

The development of these subsidiary industries is having a positive impact on strengthening the kolkhoz economy. Last year its income amounted to more than R1.5 million. But the most important point of all is that the economic unit has the possibility to involve a considerable proportion of the unemployed able-bodied population in production. Some 400 people are now working in the subsidiary industries.

In Uzbekistan's Khorezm Oblast alone there are 80,000 people unemployed. Finding them employment has long been a problem. But now they have a solution. They are sending workers from here to help the working people of Chita Oblast, with which the southerners have had a cooperation agreement for 2 years. The people of Khorezm Oblast procure timber in Siberia. In the near future they will be organizing branches of Chita plants and factories in their oblast and special teams will be helping the Siberians to increase their agricultural output. The

oblast is developing desert areas and creating new sovkhozes. But the main emphasis is placed on subsidiary industries. They employ more than 25,000 members of the able-bodied population. The experience of the Narimanov Kolkhoz and Kalinin Kolkhoz in this region in the development of subsidiary units and industries has been approved by the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Bureau.

So how are other densely populated regions of the republic using this valuable experience? They are not. There are enthusiasts in every oblast, of course. For example, the "Madaniyat" Kolkhoz in Bukhara Oblast has built mutually advantageous ties with a local cotton combine, which supplies the farm with its rejects. The kolkhoz uses these rejects to sew clothing and weave carpets. The Karl Marx Kolkhoz in Tashkent Oblast cultivates mushrooms and has several vegetable stores in the city. A teahouse is being built. And the "Namuna" Kolkhoz in Surkhan-Darya Oblast has set up a house-repair cooperative. A special team of machine operators works people's personal plots. There is a forge where local experts make truck-gardening implements for the whole district.

In short, when people make the effort, they find reserves for using the able-bodied unemployed. And these efforts are producing appreciable results—last year subsidiary industries in Uzbekistan produced output worth almost R400 million. This is not very much, of course, especially as a considerable proportion of this contribution was made by Khorezm Oblast alone. Other oblasts are still only talking about it. Party and economic leaders in the densely populated Fergana Valley, where tens of thousands of people are unemployed, are being particularly slow to act.

Uzbekistan has broad possibilities for developing subsidiary economic units and industries. It has plenty of local construction materials and by-products to use. But the main point is that it has a surplus of manpower. Today 600,000 able-bodied members of the Uzbek population are not engaged in social production.

When creating extra jobs, the most serious attention must be paid to equipment supply. A. Iskandarov, chairman of the Narimanov Kolkhoz, said that the kolkhoz plants and shops are using equipment that has been written off and the farm has no funds for raw materials and semimanufactures. Kolkhozes do not have the right to buy the equipment they need using cash payments. Problems with supply and sale are constantly arising. The republic's Gosagroprom and its local subdivisions are unwilling to allocate to economic units the equipment and materials they need.

In short, the employment problem must be solved comprehensively by the republic's party, soviet, and economic bodies.

Krasnodar Kraykom Plenum Views Political Work

PM1210131988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
8 Oct 88 Second Edition p 2

[Own correspondent K. Aksenov report "Mastering Political Methods. From the Krasnodar CPSU Kraykom Plenum"]

[Text] Krasnodar—While I was talking to the manager of a Krasnodar enterprise, the party raykom secretary telephoned to inquire how preparations for the report-and-election party meeting were progressing at the plant. When, after lengthy explanations, the director finally put down the receiver, he turned to me with a wry smile:

This is how we are restructuring. Just like in the past, people still come to me with all their questions, including questions on party issues. As if we did not have a party committee secretary....

A matter of minor importance, at first glance, but a very eloquent one. While advocating in-depth restructuring and the application of political methods in party work, some comrades continue to adhere to old methods of leadership and "to control" party organizations via the all-powerful manager-administrator. The dreaded order "from above," unjustified pressure and hectoring, and hauling people over the coals—these and many other methods which put down roots during the years of stagnation are still resorted to by some people. Many party committees are unwilling to give up the ingrained practice of tutelage of soviet and economic organs, they continue to duplicate these organs' work, and are loath to give up functions which are not their own for fear of losing power.

In this context the discussion of the question "On the tasks of the kray party committees in mastering political methods of work in the prevailing conditions" which took place at the Krasnodar CPSU Kraykom Plenum took on a special interest. Delivering the report, I. Polozkov, kraykom first secretary, emphasized that this is the most crucial and topical problem facing party organizations. After all, it is a question of carrying out a reform of the political system of society, clearly demarcating the functions of party and state organs, and enhancing the authority of the soviets as organs of genuine people's power. This is precisely the direction in which the decisions of the 19th all-union party conference and the subsequent Central Committee plenums are pointing. How and by what methods is the party to act today, in the period of truly revolutionary restructuring and renewal? The keynote speaker and those taking part in the debate sought to answer this complex question.

I am a party group organizer but I find it difficult to explain the essence of political work, N. Chmykhova, head of a hog unit on Kurganinskiy rayon's kolkhoz "Imeni Krasnykh Partizan" said frankly from the rostrum. For years and years we have gotten used to

exhortations on the lines of "Let us work harder," "Let us raise..." while little attention was being paid to how livestock breeders live, what their needs are, what worries and what pleases them.

"Tactics" of this kind were used in many places. As a result plans, tonnes, weight gains, and milk yields became more important than people; they pushed people into the background. So what should be done? The plenum participants were unanimous: It is necessary to strengthen the foundations of the party, that is, the primary organizations, to seek to ensure that they really become the labor collectives' militant nucleus.

V. Brazhnik, first deputy chairman of the kray agro-industrial committee, spoke with alarm about the fact that excessive tutelage on the part of party committees which sometimes supplant the kray agro-industrial committee's services is preventing the committee from dealing promptly with even the simplest questions. Furthermore, it has become a strange tradition to involve agricultural specialists in the preparation of plenums, bureau sessions, and the compilation of numerous reports. Valuable manpower is squandered on concocting a sea of paper!

There is something else that furnishes food for thought—the creation of the new party committee structure. It seems that the crux of the problem lies not so much in the existence of specialized departments, be they socio-economic or agro-industrial. What is important is something else: how and by what methods a given department will tackle problems in the economic, social, or spiritual sphere. After all, these problems do not disappear with the introduction of changes in the party organ structure. Will the personnel of the new departments not drown, as is the case at present, in the flood of day-to-day concerns? Will they not get lost in the mass of figures contained in various bulletins and reports? Will they really apply political methods in their work? After all, the restructuring of the party apparatus does not imply a curtailment or reduction of its activities. On the contrary, it is called upon to increase its influence in all spheres of life.

The speeches of T. Petrova, first secretary of the Anapa party gorkom, and L. Strelchenko, chief of the Krayispolkom Culture Administration, were critical and controversial. In conditions of glasnost and democratization ensuring that the population is better informed, which is undoubtedly very useful, certain negative trends have also emerged. Instances of money-grubbing, law violations, rudeness, and boorishness in dealing with people persist. What can be done? Party organizations must step up individual work and try to instill the correct political world outlook in everyone. In Anapa, for instance, a public opinion council has been set up to this end. It studies people's mood, carries out sociological research, and is generally aware of the atmosphere in the resort. This makes it possible to counter the attacks of "street pseudodemocrats" in good time, that is those who would like to spread rumours and panic and introduce confusion in the city's life.

It was noted that at present, in conditions of radical social restructuring, the training and placement of leading cadres is taking on new contours. The old methods of nomination behind closed doors on the basis of personal devotion and family ties are dying out, not without friction and delays, but they are dying out. However, the problem remains of finding true, nonformalistic leaders in the mass of people. Party committees have been trying for years to work out a system for singling out those who have earned the right to be nominated through their work. N. Gritsenko, first secretary of the Krasnodar party gorkom, spoke at the plenum about experience in this field. For several years now, open selection and assessment of leaders has been practiced here; they are nominated to responsible posts by labor collectives and party organizations, and competitive elections are in use. True leaders are identified with the help of questionnaires, sociological studies, and confidential polls. These methods are being constantly improved. The result is a lower turnover, and there are fewer of those who do not justify the trust placed in them.

Having to master political methods makes the work of party leaders more difficult. It is no longer a loud voice or the thump of the fist on the table which determines success, but rather persuasion, greater competence, and an efficient system of instilling a sense of responsibility based on trust and comradely relations but also exactingness. The large party organizational and cadre work departments which are currently being set up at party committees are called upon to work out the strategy of this work. They will be staffed by the most prestigious comrades who have gone through serious party schooling and have a talent for dealing with people.

Interesting experience in political work with the population has been amassed in the kray. Integrated political days, party officials' accounts, and direct phone-ins are regularly held at party gorkoms and raykoms. Secretaries and rayispolkom chairmen hold consultations for workers directly at production facilities and livestock units. Days of Labor Honor have become popular. In short, the party arsenal in this sphere is constantly being enriched. What did evoke the plenum participants' concern? There are still many—very many—complaints from the kray's inhabitants, including complaints to central organs. What are people complaining about? Frequently about indifference toward people's day-to-day needs on the part of the local authorities. Bureaucracy, unwillingness to attend to urgent problems, arrogance—all this has still not been eliminated from the party committees' work "methods."

The value of any policy, it was noted at the plenum, is determined by the actual changes in people's lives which it brings about, by the concrete returns which it produces

for every family, for every person. Hence, the political importance of the swiftest possible solution of the food or housing problems, for instance, is indisputable.

During the period of stagnation ideological work frequently merely simulated the process of mastering the Marxist-Leninist world outlook, glossing over the problem of people's ideological and moral education. A recent study carried out at the Korenovskiy, Pavlovskiy, and Pervomayskiy Rayons has revealed that people are attending classes, lectures, and talks without the slightest interest, merely as a matter of elementary discipline. This is, of course, intolerable at present. It is necessary to find new forms of ideological work.

The problems are many. Therefore the mastery of political methods of work and the renewal and enrichment of the arsenals of this work can help right now, during the preparations for party conferences, to resolve many key problems.

The plenum was addressed by G.K. Kryuchkov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department.

IZVESTIYA Reports Yakutiya Plane Crash

PM1810080388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 6

[Own correspondent O. Borodin report: "Catastrophe in the Mountains"]

[Text] Yakutsk—A freight aircraft belonging to the Yakutsk Civil Aviation Administration has crashed.

On its way from Tiksi to Yakutsk it crashed into a mountainside when coming in to land at the stopover airport of Batagay. All six crew members were killed.

Crew Faulted in Siberian Passenger Plane Crash

LD1610124188 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] A Yak-40 passenger plane has crashed after taking off from an airfield near the Siberian city of Nizhnevartovsk. The crash occured through the fault of the crew. Such a conclusion has been drawn by the commission set up to investigate the crash. After takeoff the pilots made a mistake by restraining the engines. As a result two engines switched off. The power of the third one proved inadequate for the plane to gather altitude and on flying some 2 km it hit a ravine slope and crashed. Four crew mates and 22 passengers died. Five passengers were hospitalized.

Economic

Bases for Economic Comparisons Questioned

PM1710153188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 2

[Abbreviated account of response by A. Nevzorov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Statistics, to IZVESTIYA interview with Doctor of Economic Sciences R. Simonyan followed by Simonyan commentary on Nevzorov response: "Honest Accounting Is Always in Our Favor"—first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] The conversation with Doctor of Economic Sciences R. Simonyan, head of a department of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of the World Economy and International Relations, entitled "Where Are We?", which dealt with our country's position in the world system of economic coordinates (issue No 190, 1988), caused great interest among readers. The editorial office has also received an official reply from the USSR State Committee for Statistics [Goskomstat]. Today we publish that reply, in slightly abridged form, and the scientist's thoughts on it.

The USSR Goskomstat has studied the report of the conversation and considers it in principle correct to raise the question of expanding work on international comparisons of the socioeconomic development of the USSR and foreign countries and the publication of comparative statistics.

The solution of the task raised by the 27th CPSU Congress of achieving the highest world standard in the country's socioeconomic and scientific and technical development demands an objective appraisal of our position in the world and the constant comparison of the development of the USSR and other countries.

In this connection the USSR Goskomstat has elaborated a program for the considerable expansion of work on international economic comparisons. The basic guidelines and the range of indicators are being drawn up for making regular international comparisons.

There will be regular reports on the results of the international comparisons of the socioeconomic and scientific-technical development of the USSR and foreign countries. This year alone the USSR Goskomstat will publish seven sectoral statistical summaries, including one entitled "The USSR and Foreign Countries."

At the same time I cannot agree with some of the points in R. Simonyan's interview. First of all the assessment of the ratio between the volumes of the USSR and U.S. national incomes and our economic growth rate in the eighties. By the beginning of the eighties our national income was approximately two-thirds that of the United States. In 1987 that ratio was 64 percent, not 55 percent, as R. Simonyan claims.

According to the USSR Goskomstat figures, which cannot be disputed by specialists well acquainted with the methodology and fine points of calculation, the average annual rate of growth of the indicator for produced national income—the main indicator of the characteristics of real economic growth—was 3.5 percent between 1981 and 1987, not 1.0-1.5 percent as according to the Western estimates which R. Simonyan cites. It is a different matter that the growth rates in the early eighties—to 1985—were affected by the increase in production and sale of wine and spirits and the foreign trade conditions of those years which were particularly favorable for our country. Since 1985 economic growth has been achieved on a healthier basis.

We should also point out that national income is incorrectly regarded as a cost indicator. National income reflects the end results of social production.

As is well known, foreign statistics make extensive use of the indicator of GNP, which differs from national income according to the Soviet methodology mainly by the size of the incomes earned in the nonproduction sphere as well as depreciation allowances on all fixed assets, both production and nonproduction.

In the U.S. statistical yearbook the level of the USSR's GNP is rated at 55 percent of that of the United States. If you accept R. Simonyan's calculation that the USSR's national income is indeed 55 percent of the U.S. level, it turns out that the levels in physical terms in the United States and the USSR are in the same proportion, which clearly is not true.

According to the USSR Goskomstat calculations, social labor productivity in the USSR is somewhat above 40 percent of the U.S. level and not one-third, as R. Simonyan claims.

In our opinion, it is wrong to compare only one section of the USSR and U.S. consumer spending on food. Some 36 percent of U.S. consumer spending goes on housing and municipal services, health care, and legal services. Our population spends only about 3 percent on those items because the vast majority of those services are paid for from social funds. Of course the high proportion of U.S. spending on services considerably reduces the proportion of the population's spending on food.

When examining the question of broad-scale work on international comparisons we encounter serious difficulties first and foremost in the methodology of comparisons. To resolve them more successfully it is necessary to create an interdepartmental council on international comparisons, which should include representatives of the USSR Gosplan, scientific research institutions of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and the relevant ministries and departments.

We must make fuller use, if not full use of the existing methodology of international comparisons employed by the United Nations and other international organizations.

[R. Simonyan reply begins]

The USSR Goskomstat's answer gives rise to mixed feelings. mAnyone who has any dealings with the study of our country's economic and social problems knows how difficult the problem of statistics in our country is. There isn't another developed country where national economic statistics are as incomplete and often as distorted and impossible to compare with the international statistics. Therefore, the State Committee's report on its planned program for the "considerable expansion of work on international economic comparisons" can only be welcomed.

But there are alarming features in the official reply. For many decades our chief statistical department, and others as well, has performed, as is well known, a definite social function—to show in figures how well we are working and living. It is now necessary to evaluate the actual situation as correctly as possible and to produce a precise diagnosis—only then can we hope for the "recovery" of the economy.

Unfortunately, a whole series of points in the answer cause definite misgivings in this respect.

The Goskomstat disagrees first with the evaluations of the ratio of the volumes of USSR and U.S. national incomes and the rate of our economic growth in the eighties. Well, that is a good reason for talking at least briefly about the mystery which for many years now has troubled many specialists on the Soviet economy, both here and abroad. To be precise, our national income reached two-thirds of the U.S. level not by the early eighties, as reported in the reply signed by Comrade A.V. Nevzorov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Statistics, but according to that same Committee's own figures by 1970, in other words almost 20 years ago.

During the seventies the developed capitalist countries endured serious economic upheavals and experienced a number of crises of a cyclical and structural character which, of course, were reflected in the slowing down of the rate of economic growth. In the United States it was much higher than in our country. For example, according to the State Committee's figures the U.S. figure for 1971-1975 was 2.2 percent whereas here it was 5.7 percent. In 1976-1980 those indicators were 3.4 percent in the United States and 4.3 percent here, in 1981-1985 they were 2.4 percent in the United States and 3.6 percent here, and finally in 1986 they were 2.5 percent in the United States and 4.1 percent here. As we can see, for 15 years our rates of economic growth have been 1.5 times and sometimes even twice the U.S. indicators.

What about the ratio of the levels of national income? The Goskomstat asserts that it was and had remained unchanged and only in recent years has the Goskomstat changed it somewhat—to 64 percent.

What is happening here? We are growing much faster but are lagging further and further behind? I have no doubts that if necessary the Goskomstat will be able to explain how something like that can be calculated. But do we really need explanations of how to compare incomparable indicators? What we need are real, fully comparable statistics so that every one, I repeat everyone and not just the Goskomstat specialist, can use them as a basis to see where we are going and what progress we are making, notably in comparison with other countries.

It is necessary not so much to explain the existing calculations as to conduct a new, comprehensive, and, most important of all, honest comparison, possibly in conjunction with the Americans. To calculate our output (on the basis of quality) in U.S. dollars at U.S. market prices. To see the U.S. product in terms of our prices, in rubles. Incidentally, the Goskomstat has not carried out that second comparison, in terms of our prices, in rubles, or if it has, the result has not been published yet.

Now for the question of growth rates. I am not going to comment on the wine and spirits thesis as a factor in the growth of our economy and on the foreign trade conditions, which changed in our favor back in 1973. What about the hidden price rise? The fantastic distortions of the cotton figures, for instance? Was that reflected somehow in the adjustment of the rate of growth or did the Goskomstat specialists make the necessary adjustments during those years when the true scale of the negative phenomena of stagnation was still unknown?

As for the specialists "well acquainted with the methodology and fine points of the calculations," I shall cite the opinion of one such specialist: "...The statistics for the growth of national income and gross output do not take sufficient account of the real rise in prices, in particular for consumer goods, equipment, and construction and assembly work. Therefore...the rates of growth of national income in the 10th and 11th 5-Year Plans were overstated. For a number of years, in fact, particularly 1979-1982, there was no real growth in the national economy and it stagnated. A precrisis situation took shape. Suffice it to say that the production volumes fell for 40 percent of the types of industrial output for which the USSR Central Statistical Administration publishes figures. Throughout those years agricultural production also declined and the 1978 level was not surpassed. The figures for the growth of construction were also fictitious. If the calculations are based on the end result (the commissioning of production capacities and volumes), the amount commissioned fell.... Growth in real incomes stopped, and for some groups of the population incomes even began to fall."

Those are the words of Academician A. Aganbegyan, secretary of the USSR Academy of Sciences economics department, whose competence is hardly questioned by the USSR Goskomstat.

If even that is not enough, let us quote another comment: "If economic indicators of growth are rectified...then for almost four 5-year plans we have had no increase in absolute national income growth; it even began to decline in the early eighties. That is the real picture, comrades!" So said M.S. Gorbachev at the CPSU Central Committee February 1988 Plenum.

The various interpretations of the period of stagnation could ultimately have been left out of the newspaper now. They could have, but only if people were confident that lessons had been learned from past mistakes and omissions. But let us look at the evaluations of the pace of economic growth production by the USSR Goskomstat since 1985, when the growth was already "on a healthy basis."

Specialists from the Vienna Institute of Comparative Economic Research with whom I have met drew attention to the fact that the results of the plan fulfillment for the past 2 years have been given as different indicators of incomparable types: in 1987 it was 2.3 percent, which coincides with the growth in actual prices; in 1986 it was 4.1 percent, allegedly in comparable prices. The mystery is that the indicators for the rate of growth of national income in comparable prices here are either equal to or considerably higher than in current real prices. For economists such a situation can mean only one thing: The stability or substantial reduction of wholesale and retail prices for output produced in the USSR. But is that the case?

The practice persists whereby some indicators are changed retrospectively without the adequate adjustment of other indicators. The rate of growth in the distribution of physical volumes of national income does not correspond to the indices given by the Goskomstat. But the years of stagnation are over now....

The Goskomstat reply contains a number of additional theses to which one must attend. "It is wrong," it is claimed, "to interpret national income as a cost indicator. National income reflects the end results of social production."

It would be possible to concur with this, but only if all the output produced by us and included in the national income indicator on paper were to actually reach the consumer rather than sitting in depots or lying idle in warehouses. The value of stocks of goods and material assets has now reached almost R5 billion. Moreover, almost 90 percent of the increase in national income goes annually on "augmenting" warehouse stocks.

Finally the Goskomstat reply regarding consumer expenditure.

I do not think that we will be able to make major progress in our understanding of the real picture if we retain the propaganda cliches invented in previous decades. The State Committee's staffers are well aware, after all, that the Americans, like the West Europeans, have a more varied and better diet than us, and dress no worse. And if, despite all this, under one-fourth of their budget goes on food, clothing, and footwear, it is not because they are economizing or have nothing to buy in the stores. It is simply that their average per capita income is far higher than ours, and consequently, after meeting their basic needs, they can still spend three-fourths of their income on other things. And if, say, figures are cited showing that Americans spend around 25 percent of their budget on accommodation and municipal services and another 11 percent on medical and legal services, you certainly must here break them down and establish what kind of accommodation and what range of services they are paying for.

The thesis about the cheapness of what our population receives from social funds, must, in my opinion, also be modified in the light of circumstances, which may be illustrated by this extract from a response to the article by A. Sokolov, a teacher from Moscow: "Although a native of Moscow, I was on the housing list for 20 years, receiving a three-room apartment in 1980. The authorization voucher for the apartment was ceremoniously handed over to me, but when I opened the door of the apartment my hair stood on end. The apartment cost me around R2,500 in major repair work. And you say it is cheap. I got into debt and have not cleared it to this day."

If we compare product prices in relation to average per capita income (including for us payments out of the social funds), we obtain a series of figures which also gives much pause for thought, even if we compare food prices not with total income but with that part of it which remains after deducting expenditure on housing and municipal services, as the State Committee for Statistics proposes.

One can, of course, as Leningrader Ya. Ponomarev does in his letter, put our food problems down to the fact that agricultural conditions are worse here than in other countries.

But in developed countries agricultural productivity has long depended not so much on the primary land resources or agroclimatic conditions as the level of development of the production forces. It is not fortuitous, after all, that the most highly efficient agricultural production is achieved not where it is possible to harvest two crops a year but where it is carried out most intensively. In the Netherlands, for example, where wheat yield has for many years now consistently exceeded 60 quintals per hectare. And no one is likely to claim that the Scandinavian countries—Sweden and Finland—have much better agricultural conditions than the Non-Chernozem Zone. But there they produce an average milk yield of 5,000-6,000 liters a year, whereas here?

These are just a few thoughts regarding the Goskomstat official reply.

Statistics Reveal Nonfulfillment of Contracts

LD1010185788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Presented by Aleksandr Zhetvin]

[Text] I have the latest data from the USSR State Statistics Committee. One may select from them those statistics describing the fulfillment of contracts and the observation of labor discipline in industry. In particular, it is noted that 46 percent of associations and enterprises of the country's machine-building complex are not coping with the fulfillment of their contractual obligations. Consumers failed to receive products ordered by them to the tune of about R900 million. But talking won't help here. The path to resolving such problems is being opened up by the economic reform: direct contacts between enterprises, directly avoiding numerous departmental barriers. And the soviets of labor collectives should take part in these links, in these contacts, too, not only the administrators.

Percentages of Substandard Goods Reported

PM1710080788 Moscow TRUD in Russian 7 Oct 88 p 4

[USSR State Committee for Statistics replies to reader's letter: "Rejects on the Shelves"]

[Text] Many goods are still in short supply. This is a problem we have. But there is also a reason for it. It is the fact that substandard goods keep on appearing on shelves. How many substandard goods do we produce? (I. Penkin, Novosibirsk).

The reply comes from the USSR State Committee for Statistics.

In the first half of the year, for example, 5.6 percent of meat and poultry, 6.3 percent of sausage products, 9.3 percent of fish, 10.3 percent of margarine, 27.2 percent of eggs, 14.7 percent of nonalcoholic drinks, 9.8 percent of canned fish, and 6 percent of confectionery were rejected. Even wine gets rejected. Last year 784,000 decaliters, or 15.1 percent of all the grape and fruit and berry wine inspected, were rejected.

The quality of a number of cultural and consumer goods remains poor. Between January and July 19.6 percent of television sets, 16.7 percent of radio sets, 27 percent of washing machines, the same percentage of refrigerators and freezers, 16 percent of furniture, and 12 percent of soap were rejected.

Furthermore, state quality inspectors vetoed the sale of 17.5 percent of sewn goods, 13 percent of knitted goods, and nearly 25 percent of socks and hosiery.

It must be said that there is not enough economic competition in the quality stakes among consumer goods-producing enterprises, which enjoy monopoly status.

Georgian Pig Iron Foundry Files for Bankruptcy
LD1610114788 Moscow TASS in English 0914 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] Tbilisi October 16 TASS—By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Sharshunov:

It has been officially reported in the city of Rustavi, a large industrial center of Georgia, that the foundry Tsentrolit, the largest in Soviet Transcaucasia, went into bankruptcy. Having amassed unpaid credits to the tune of eight million rubles, it lost the opportunity not only to purchase the necessary raw and other materials but also to pay wages to the workers.

One of the reasons behind the financial upheaval is that pig iron casting, the main output of Tsentrolit, is not needed by the oversaturated market. The allied enterprises are disadvantaged in having huge reserves of castings, which, by the way, are constantly replenished, since they pay heavy fines for exceeded norms.

"Before announcing the plant bankrupt and ceasing its financing, we raised the question—to the union ministry, under whose authority the plant operates—of receiving guarantees on its part that the industry will recoup the losses sustained by the plant in Rustavi and pay off its debts," Zaal Gendsekhadze, chairman of the board of the republican branch of the USSR Industrial and Building Bank, told TASS. "However, we did not received these guarantees."

Does this mean that some 1.5 million metallurgists will be left jobless? The council of the plant's working collective does not agree with this. The law on the state enterprise granted extensive rights to such councils, among them the right to decide the destiny of the plant.

"We announced an auction", says Nikolay Khazaradze, chairman of the council. "We received a good deal of proposals. For instance, the Volzhskiy plant, the largest motor works in the country, wants to organize the output of spare parts for Zhiguli cars at our enterprise. Besides, under the law on cooperative ventures, we can lease capacities to cooperatives to manufacture consumer goods. The council will choose an optimum variant."

Plant diversion will take a lot of time. But on what funds will the workers who had to lose their jobs live? "The trade union will pay average wages for two months to those workers who will express the desire to remain at the plant; eventually they will be financially supported by the city council from its budget," Teimuraz Dalakishvili, mayor of Rustavi, explains. "Some 500,000 rubles were set aside to these ends from the bank of the territorial and inter- sectoral association, operating on cost-accounting principles, at the city executive committee. And those who will wish to change their job will be able to do it without any problems, as the industrial city experiences a considerable shortage of manpower".

Far East Enterprise Zone Plans Described
LD1710130988 Moscow TASS in English 1212 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—Siberia and the Soviet Far East can and must live in the same rhythm as the countries of the Pacific community. Maintaining this, Pavel Minakir, deputy director of the Khabarovsk Economic Research Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, refers to the 'easy regime' for those areas mentioned by Mikhail Gorbachev during his stay in Krasnoyarsk. Such regime, in the scientist's view, will give a powerful impetus to the region's development.

Pavel Minakir told journalists recently that the dynamisation of the foreign economic relations of the eastern areas of the USSR was a logical furtherance of the long-term state program adopted last year for the development of the Far East.

As is known, the program envisages the utilisation of more than 200,000 million roubles of state capital investments. A right to a direct outlet to the external market is to be granted to all state and cooperative enterprises of the region. At present only about one hundred big enterprises, amalgamations and organisations have such a right in the country.

The enterprises of the region may conclude contracts in the United States, Japan, China and other countries for the delivery of components and semifabricates for their main output. The deliveries can be paid for by the main output of enterprises, by the rendering of services to foreign supplies, and by participation in the construction of joint projects.

The scientist also regards as promising the idea of establishing 'zones of free enterprise' along the border where farm products are put out and processed jointly with neighbours, enterprises are built on the basis of mutual benefit, and where an 'easy regime' of taxation, payment for natural resources, customs duties and the licensing of foreign economic transactions is to be introduced.

He said that interesting proposals were already coming in. For example, a proposal to establish such a zone in the area of Lake Hasan at the juncture of borders with China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

That could become in practice a sort of "Far Eastern Hong Kong" with free cross-border migration of labour force, Minakir said. In order to attract foreign capital there, it is essential to build airports, a network of railways and motor roads, and an international telecommunications centre on the territory with an area of 100 square kilometres.

Pavel Menakir said his institute was preparing specific proposals on the establishment of such free enterprise and free econmic zones in the Soviet Far East. These may be territories along the Amur and Ussuri rivers, the southern part of Sakhalin, the Muravev-Amurskiy Peninsula and, possibly, the area of Khabarovsk.

Batalin Attends Construction Industry Conference

PM1710125788 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "The Country's Construction Industry Workers in Consultation"]

[Text] Chimkent, 14 Oct—An all-Union seminar-conference of construction industry workers opened here today. It is attended by leaders of the construction industry complex, chiefs of territorial associations, trust managers, and labor collective council chairmen who are discussing questions of the introduction of internal production economic accountability, lease contracts, and the activity and further development of cooperatives within the sector.

The participants in the seminar, which is scheduled to last 3 days, will exchange experiences accumulated in the course of the restructuring of the work of the construction industry complex, and will discuss the problems of the speediest improvement of the construction industry workers' activity.

Yu.P. Batalin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosstroy; G.B. Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee; and N.A. Nazarbayev, chairman of the republic Council of Ministers; are taking part in the work of the seminar-conference.

Nuclear Icebreakers Work in Arctic Waters

PM1710083388 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Voyage Over"]

[Text] Vladivostok—The Far East Steamship Company icebreaker "Ivan Moskvitin" was the last vessel to leave the mouth of the Kolyma yesterday. It was accompanying the steamers "Professor Bubnov" and "Professor Popov." With these trips the sailors completed their voyage to this important economic region of the Arctic. They had been supplying northerners with the all the cargo they need for normal work under the conditions of the long polar night. The northern sea routes, already closed off by new ice, are now being worked by two powerful icebreakers—the nuclear-powered "Rossiya" and "Arktika." They are breaking a channel through heavy pack ice to the eastern edge of the country, helping convoys to safely reach clear water and make for their home shores.

New Highway Opened Across Caucasus Mountains

PM1410093388 [Editorial report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 October 1988 Morning Edition front-pages a TASS-attributed photofeature under the heading "All-Weather Transcaucasus Highway," marking the opening of a new north-south road across the mountains.

The feature comprises two photographs, one showing highway official Yuriy Bezhashvili sitting in a car, the other an elevated section of highway. The unattributed caption reads:

"North Osetian ASSR. The Transcaucasus Motor Highway, which links the RSFSR with the Transcaucasian republics by the shortest possible route, is now open. The construction workers have had to overcome many difficulties: The road crosses mountain rivers and ravines. Structures to protect against avalanches have been erected at danger points along the highway. The biggest motor tunnel in the country has been built under the precipitous Rokskiy Pass. Once some additional facilities to protect against avalanches and landslips have been constructed, the Transcaucasus Motor Highway will be open all year round, in all weathers."

Agricultural

Efficiency, Usefulness of Leasing Stressed

LD1710212988 Moscow TASS in English 1802 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 17 TASS—TASS commentator Igor Galkin writes:

The Saguramoiskiy State Farm in Georgia which ran a debt of 750 thousand roubles last year starts showing profit now. The explanation for this change in the state of things is simple: the main production units of the state farm have been switched to leaseholding. And this is not the only such example. The leaseholders' harvest of grain on an average is half a ton more per hectare and the yield of milk per cow is a ton more than in traditional economies.

Other figures attesting to the efficiency of leasehold farming can be given. And in general, due to leaseholding, land tillers started using the language of economists, while economists started considering in their calculations the psychology of man who now feels master of land.

Various forms of leasehold farming are now used in more than 10,000 cooperatives and state farms of the country. A new increase in a number of leaseholders is expected in the autumn and winter. Apparently many

rural toilers who were unsure if they should join in this movement felt greater confidence after a conference held last week at the CPSU Central Committee, where firm support was expressed for any forms of leaseholding in the rural areas.

Meanwhile leasehold relations still cause a multitude of problems and complexities. The introduction of leaseholding in practice on a large scale so far is ahead of theory and even legislation, as a law on leaseholding is just being worked out. But this is not all. Specifically, the sum total of credits granted to leaseholders is so far not enough for setting up effective economies. Not even objective criterions for determining rent for land, for other means of production have yet been worked out.

One of the serious causes containing the introduction of leasehold farming is that peasants in backward economies and even in some average economies are not always interested in work under new conditions. A guarantee pay was introduced in the past in all rural economies for considerations of social justice. It included pay for intermediate operations. The end result of the activity of an economy—harvests, yields of milk, etc.—were actually not related to the pay in conditions of the command-administrative system of economic management. Such a practice has now been condemned but it still exists. It so happens sometimes that the earnings of farmers in economies that are in the red (and they account for nearly one fifth of all the farms) do not differ or are sometimes even higher than the earnings of farmers in the economies which show high profit.

Another cause of a slow introduction of leasehold farming is opposition of experts and manager of the economy. They got accustomed to fixed salaries and they realize that only those who achieve good results can hope to get high earnings in new conditions. Therefore it is necessary not just to convince specialists of the usefulness of leasehold relations but also make them interested in the work of collectives operating on a leasehold basis.

Initially some people even had doubts of political nature about leaseholding. But the awareness of the fact that leasehold relations do not contradict socialism in any way is spreading now. Land remains national property and relations of leaseholder with the economies and society are determined by power of the working people.

Early October Weather, Crop Progress Reported

PM1710085788 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 14 Oct 88 p 4

[Unattributed report: "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] Primarily mild weather with slight rain, favorable for completing the harvest of agricultural crops, has held steady on the European territory of the USSR. With an adequate supply of moisture winter grain crops grew and developed in the last 10-day period. Winters crops sown in the first half of August have bushed out to 2-4 shoots on farms in the North, Northwest, Volga-Vyatka, Urals, and Central regions and in the north of the Volga region. Crops sown later (after 10-15 September) were at the stage of shooting and producing their third leaf. Conditions were primarily favorable for the growth and development of winter grain crops in the Ukraine, Moldavia, the Central Chernozem, and North Caucasus regions and in the south of the Volga region. Depending on when they were sown, these crops are at the following stages: producing shoots, or their third leaf, or tillering. The state of the crops is good and they have an adequate supply of moisture. The topsoil contains approximately 25mm of productive moisture.

Moderately warm weather continued in the Transcaucasian republics. The mean air temperature was close to the perennial average, and was 2 degrees higher in the west of Georgia and in the east of Azerbaijan. The maximum air temperature was 22-25 degrees. The topsoil of land under winter crops and in fields scheduled to be sown with winter crops contained primarily approximately 30mm of productive moisture. Conditions for cotton boll opening and ripening were favorable in Azerbaijan. However, the rain that fell for 1-3 days complicated the harvesting and drying of raw cotton.

Following mild weather there was a sharp drop in temperature in the arable regions of Siberia and the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan. Frosts ranging from minus 2 to minus 10 degrees have been recorded everywhere, with minus 12 degrees in some places, which could damage the vegetable crops not yet harvested. Owing to the rain that fell for 2-4 days and the reduced air temperatures, conditions were unfavorable for field work in Western Siberia and for completing harvesting work in Eastern Siberia. Over most of the territory the topsoil of land under winter crops sown on fallow predecessors contained 25-35mm of productive moisture. Winter rye sown in August and early-September has bushed out. Crops sown later were at the stage of shooting and producing their third leaf. In the Far East unstable weather continued.

The weather is cool and dry in the Central Asian republics. Air and ground frosts have been recorded ranging from 0 degrees to minus 7 degrees, which has delayed the ripening and opening of the cotton bolls. The frosts have damaged heat-loving crops in individual rayons of the Kirghiz SSR, the Uzbek SSR, and the Tajik SSR.

Agricultural Developments for 11-16 Oct

LD1710014588 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 11-16 October. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

11 October

In the Kabarda-Balkar ASSR, 95,000 tonnes of corn have been delivered to grain reception enterprises; the state order has been practically fulfilled. (1400)

The State Committee for Statistics of Kazakhstan says that eared crops have been harvested from 22,110,000 hectares, which is 94 percent of the total. (1100)

Nearly 2 million tonnes of first-class cotton has been picked by mechanized harvesters in Uzbekistan. This is better than in previous years. (2230)

12 October

Belgorod Oblast: Farmers have fulfilled the plan for procurement of oil crops. More than 68,000 tonnes have been dispatched to the state. Sales of sunflower continue above plan. (1400)

Orel oblast has delivered 1 million tonnes of sugar beets to procurement points; and sales continue. (0304)

The rice harvest in Krasnodar Kray is coming to an end on the last thousands of hectares. The Kuban supplies some two-thirds of the RSFSR's rice and one-third of the rice in the USSR as a whole. This year, the harvest is proceeding faster than last year, and the yield is higher—nearly 50 quintals per hectare. (1900)

Amur Oblast has overfulfilled the plan for sales of buckwheat to the state by more than 50 percent. More land area was earmarked for buckwheat this year, and the farming was intensive. (1900)

13 October

The farmers of Tajikistan have delivered 700,000 tonnes of cotton to the state so far, which is 250,000 tonnes more than at this stage last year. The high rates of work at many farms are due to skillful use of cotton-harvesting technology. It is notable that this is the 3d year that there have been no students or schoolchildren working in the fields in Tajikistan. The cotton-growers of Tajikistan have 200,000 tonnes of cotton more to harvest. (1700)

The plan for buckwheat sales to the state has been overfulfilled more than 1.5 times by the sovkhozes and kolkhozes of Amur Oblast. (0030)

The agricultural workers of Tajikistan have delivered 700,000 tons of cotton to the reception points. (0300)

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA reports the fulfilling of the plan to sell sugar beets to the state in Voronezh; 4 million tons of beets have been delivered to factory works and processing points. (0500)

The last harvesting units have left the corn fields of the Murgab Valley in Turkmenia. Corn for grain has been harvested from almost 14,000 hectares. (1400)

14 October

Tambov Oblast farmers have fulfilled the 3-year plan for sugar beet sales. Since the start of the 5-year plan, they have procured nearly 6 million tonnes. Farms in the oblast have also completed the 3-year tasks for sales of potatoes, sunflower, and fruits. (0700)

The machine operators of Kazakhstan are preparing the soil for the next year harvest. The pace of plowing is considerably higher than in the preceding years. The work on winter field of the republic is coming to an end. Ninety-eight percent of allocated fields have been sown with wheat, rye, and fodder crops. (1200)

Tambov Oblast crop farmers today fulfilled the state plan for sugar beet sales: 2 million tonnes of raw materials have been dispatched to the sugar refineries. Before the end of the season, it is planned to dispatch to consumers an additional 300,000 tonnes of sugar beet. The oblast's six sugar refineries are now operating at full capacity; it is planned to turn out 220,000 tons of sugar. (1400)

Cotton picking in Tajikistan has entered its final phase. Nearly 720,000 tonnes of cotton have so far been delivered to the procurement stations—considerably more than during the same period last year. (1430)

15 October

Uzbekistan: The 4 millionth tonne of cotton this picking season will be delivered to the procurement points today. According to the republic's Goskomstat, this is the highest yield ever. (0500)

The cotton-pickers of Turkmenistan have sold their 1 millionth tonne of cotton. This is the first time that the republic has achieved this figure by mid-October. (0600)

Uzbekistan's crop growers today reported that 4 million tonnes of cotton had been picked, half of this having been machine-picked. For the first time it has been possible to pick 1 million tonnes in Turkmenistan by mid-October. (0900)

Almost 1.5 million tonnes of grain have been delivered in Irkutsk Oblast. (Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130)

Two-thirds of the over 2 million hectares of land sown with grain corn in the Ukraine has been harvested. (1557)

16 October

No fileworthy items monitored.

Military

'Studio 9' Airs Discussion on Military Doctrine

OW1510082588 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0540 GMT 15 Oct 88

["Studio 9" program, presented by Professor Valentin Sergeyevich Zorin, political observer of Soviet Television and Radio; with Colonel General Vladimir Nikolayevich Lobov, first deputy chief of the general staff of the USSR armed forces; and Valentin Mikhaylovich Falin, doctor of historical sciences and director of the Board of APN]

[Text] [Zorin] Hello comrades. We meet here at Studio 9 at the Ostankino Television Center to discuss the pressing problems of world politics. The theme of today's discussion has been suggested to us by numerous letters from regular viewers of our program who, judging by the responses, are, by and large, people interested in the problems of world politics, well informed, having access to the latest information, and showing an interest, not only in the released facts, but in the deeper analysis of the processes taking place in the international arena.

Recently there has been an increased number of letters addressed to Studio 9 expressing concern over military and political problems, with the new Soviet military doctrine, military threat to our country, and other questions in this sphere. Particularly, the following have asked us to dwell on these questions: Comrade Bogatyrev, research mathematician from Novosibirsk; Mikhail Novikov, a student from Kharkov; Comrade Bondareva, a doctor from Chelyabinsk; Nikolay Mikhaylovich Dvoryaninov, a fitter and turner from Voronezh; and many other regular viewers of our broadcast. I feel that the problem in which they have displayed an interest is really deserving discussion at this stage. Therefore, we have invited Colonel General Vladimir Nikolayevich Lobov, first deputy chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, and Valentin Mikhaylovich Falin, noted researcher, doctor of historical sciences, to take part in today's discussion at Studio 9. I would like to begin our talk today with a question which, in one form or another, is to be found in numerous letters we have received. They ask: How should the present military threat to the Soviet Union be seen? Some feel that this threat remains very great, others maintain that, in practical terms, the threat does not exist. I think we should ask Vladimir Nikolayevich to voice his opinion on this matter and to give an appraisal of the military threat. Vladimir Nikolayevich, please.

[Lobov] Certainly the question posed by the viewers and by yourself is a very serious one. It should be said that this question has always concerned our Soviet people. Has this military threat ever existed, and does it exist today? What exists today is a very great quantity of stockpiled weapons, both in the West and in our own country. This consists of both nuclear and conventional arms, weapons of mass destruction and, naturally, as long as these weapons exist, there exists the obvious threat of war. Because weapons are there not simply to exist as weapons, but to be used. Therefore, it is my opinion that if today there is no open, direct threat, the question of a threat as such has not disappeared. The threat of war does exist, and we have to do all we can to abolish it. As far as what is being done to achieve this, you are aware of the steps taken by our Government and view of the military and the steps implemented.

[Zorin] If we take a look at the dynamics of things, is the present threat of war greater than, say, 3 or 4 years ago? Has there been any change?

[Lobov] Certainly, there has been change. Changes have taken place. In the first place, very definite steps have been taken on the part of our party and government to ease the international situation, precisely by means of political measures. Naturally, with the easing of the international situation and its political factors, the threat of war must in itself decrease, and this, in fact, is the case. But from the technical point of view, from the point of view of weapons and the armed forces, I would not say that at this stage the threat has been eliminated.

[Zorin] I understand. Valentin Mikhaylovich, what is your opinion on this matter?

[Falin] I would say that weapons in themselves, considering all dangers, include the danger of an explosion for, as we know from the Chekhov play, even the gun that hangs on the wall can discharge itself. Nevertheless, the main thing that should be considered, in my opinion, in analyzing the question of whether there exists a military threat, is to take a look at what the sides possessing certain weapons proceed from in the research they do to perfect these weapons, and in the stockpiling of these weapons, in the creation of a system of bases with a certain infrastructure and distribution, in refining the perfection of the concept of weapon use. What do they proceed from?

If our Soviet military doctrine both at its genesis—later on we did go through several stages of development—and currently has as its main objective to make war impossible, if our contemporary military conception and military doctrine proceeds from the responsibility we have taken upon ourselves—and we propose that other countries do likewise—of not being the first to fire either a conventional or nuclear weapon, then the other side proceeds from the right of perhaps firing such a shot. As long... [changes thought] ...and if this is the position from which that side will proceed, then this fact alone gives rise to a threat, a military threat.

Now the following question can be asked. Military threats did exist during periods of our history. At times, this threat manifested itself in specific wars, in armed actions directed against us. But the threat also existed in another form. In the form of forcing the arms race on us; in the form of creating obstacles which prevented us

from concentrating on social and economic questions. And, putting the obvious question of war aside, we should ask: Did the other side achieve certain results with the aid of massive and systematic pressure applied on us through making the threat of war more acute? To this I would give the following answer: Much was achieved by this. At a minimum, some 30-40 years have been lost to the process of our peaceful, creative development. As a minimum, perhaps more.

[Zorin] I would like to ask both of you, Vladimir Nikolayevich and Valentin Mikhaylovich, a question. Would you briefly give us your point of view? The following thought has been expressed by some, including our specialists: Certainly the military threat does exist, but there is greater threat to us in falling behind economically, in science and technology, and that these threats are more realistic and more acute than the direct military threat. Do you agree with this? We'll start with you, Vladimir Nikolayevich.

[Lobov] War is a very complicated concept. Generally, when we speak of war, we usually speak in terms of its military component, that is the armed struggle. Many think that all is tied to this particular point, that, if there is an armed struggle, a state of war exists. If we should speak in terms of an economic or political struggle, then such a struggle today, in my opinion, has in no way subsided. The struggle continues. We know, for example, that our economic enemies, including the United States, are doing all they can to tire us out economically. Within the context of economic and political struggle, those who stage this struggle have the armed forces at their disposal, and may, at a certain stage in the development of this economic and political struggle, say to themselves—we have recourse to armed forces and arms, we can use them. Could such a scenario arise? Certainly, it could. Under no circumstances should this be discounted.

[Zorin] Valentin Mikhaylovich?

[Falin] This is how I would answer this question. One should not contrast the military side with the economic, social, scientific, and technical side. All this is a part of a whole. I think the military balance cannot be separated from the overall balance and, in some way, the economic conditions existing in one or another state; the scientific and technical potential in one or another state can, at a certain developmental stage, in terms of the balance of forces, play a role which is no less important than the differences in the military balance of forces. I am convinced that at various stages we did not view this properly. More likely, we underestimated this.

[Lobov] I fully agree that, in order to prevent a war, as a military confrontation, it is essential to conduct a most active diplomatic work, and of course, political work. So as to eliminate all economic, political, and certainly diplomatic prerequisites for resorting to the use of armed forces.

[Zorin] Vladimir Nikolayevich, if I understood you correctly, we do not have any hostile, dangerous, or aggressive designs on the United States at the present time. But what about the past? For instance, American historians and the military, your colleagues, maintain that during the first postwar years the Soviet Union had staff plans for aggressive actions both in Western Europe and against the United States. I think that today this question is of more than just historical significance. What can you say about this?

[Lobov] Well, as far as this is concerned, I would like to say that, unlike us, the United States had such plans, and they have been published. They want to say that they were staff plans, but we say that doctrine has political as well as military and technical sides. Now a plan, be it a staff plan or some other plan, is precisely an expression of the military and technical side of military doctrine. A staff plan of this sort existed, and therefore, naturally, a strike against the Soviet Union was being prepared.

[Zorin] And as far as we are concerned?

[Lobov] As far as we are concerned, one can say unequivocally that our side, having defeated fascism, the German fascist aggressors, in 1945, was engaged in something quite different. We had to restore our national economy, the wounds of war had to be healed, the wounds dealt to us by fascism, and naturally we had no time for such plans. Everyone knows that, and it could be confirmed through documents and by any other means that we have, and from a scientific point of view as well.

[Zorin] Another question that arises in the letters that we have received recently is the question about the new Soviet military doctrine. Now a lot is being said here in general terms about this new military doctrine. But judging from the questions that we receive, our public is much less informed about its specifics. So I would like to ask you, Vladimir Nikolayevich, as a military man, to tell us what the essence of this new military doctrine is and how it differs from the doctrine, or more precisely, doctrines that guided the Soviet Armed Forces in the past.

[Lobov] The question itself is a broad one. Naturally, the question of doctrine is essentially the state's attitude towards war. After all, there is a known definition that a doctrine is a system of scientifically founded views adopted by a state toward war, toward the essence of a war, toward preparations for a war. By preparations I have in mind the preparations of the country itself for a future war, as well as the armed forces of this country for war, if such a war is possible, if you will. I would like to say something else. Sometimes we are deluded into thinking that military doctrine is shaped by the military or simply by politicians. In my opinion, this is an incorrect concept. After all, this is a system of views adopted within the state, and if we approach this doctrine from this point of view, then our doctrine has always been defensive in character.

In connection with this, we can recall the Peace Decree, the first Peace Decree, and the Leninist teaching on the defense of our socialist fatherland—his words, which he pronounced in 1917, that we are now defenders and we will defend our motherland.

[Zorin] Then what is new in the new doctrine?

[Lobov] Well, there is a lot that is new. You understand, our new doctrine, as compared to the old doctrine, is a more offensive doctrine [boleye nastupatelnaya doktrina]. Now this offensiveness is also not understood by some, this offensiveness of our doctrine. But the offensiveness of the doctrine lies in the fact that this doctrine is directed towards averting war. Now, in order to avert war, an active policy must be pursued; an active economic policy and an active diplomatic struggle must be waged. And herein, I would say, lies the precise offensive nature of the doctrine.

[Zorin] You have in mind not military offensiveness but political offensiveness.

[Lobov] Of course, political offensiveness, of course. It is vivid and the meaning of our doctrine lies in this. If we previously spoke about our doctrine of past years, then our doctrine was defensive. It was directed at defending our fatherland, and we always thought that because we have certain armed forces, we will defend our country by armed means.

[Zorin] Vladimir Nikolayevich, does it not bother you that, say, somebody in the West, after hearing our discussion, may say that the first deputy chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff has declared that the essence of the new military doctrine lies in its offensiveness when compared to the previous military doctrine which was defensive? Does this not embarrass you?

[Lobov] No, this does not embarrass me whatsoever, because I am talking about offensiveness in terms of averting war. This is where the offensiveness of our doctrine lies. This does sound paradoxical, doesn't it?

[Zorin] Yes.

[Lobov] But overall our position on averting war is not defensive. We are obliged, we must do everything possible with all our Soviet people, with our entire policy and even all our economic might, if you will, to avert war.

[Zorin] Very well. This is the political side of the matter. But it is the first deputy chief of the General Staff who is responding to my question.

[Lobov] That is correct.

[Zorin] So what about the military side?

[Lobov] On the military side it is clear that we are in close contact with the political side of the doctrine. And here too we must say something. The military and technical side of the doctrine reflects what armed forces are needed, how these armed forces should be applied for the defense of our motherland, and how they should be prepared for the defense of our motherland. This is the essence of the military and technical side of our doctrine. And naturally in this respect this doctrine of ours is defensive.

We are not preparing our armed forces to attack some other state. After all, in order to make the military and technical side of this doctrine offensive the armed forces must be prepared for an offensive, for the conquest of some state. Our armed forces are not preparing for this. They are preparing to protect the motherland, to defend the motherland. Naturally, it is possible to defend the motherland. After all, if we say defensive doctrine, if we say that we will protect our motherland through defensive actions, this does not mean that in the process—for example, the very process of defending our state—there will not be some offensive actions within this defense. It is only natural that they occur as a type of combat action. But generally the military and technical essence of our doctrine is defensive.

[Zorin] I understand. Valentin Mikhaylovich, I would like to continue our conversation and ask your opinion on the following topic: Could it be said that the new Soviet military doctrine, about which so much is being said throughout the world, is not only the normal result of the development of military thought, but also the result of the fact that certain delusions and mistakes of the past have been overcome? And if you answer my question in the affirmative, then I have another question: What mistakes precisely?

[Falin] First of all, I would like to add a few things to what Vladimir Nikolayevich said. Of course, our military doctrine has undergone much change during its development. If Lenin said during the spring of 1918 that the main influence Soviet power will have on the international situation will be through its future economic and social successes, then after Lenin this idea did not play the priority role that Vladimir Ilich ascribed to it. It seems to me, and I am prepared to prove this, that under Stalin there was an excessive enthusiasm for the military factor, as part of an effort to attach particular weight to our state in international relations and in the international arena—to the detriment of other aspects of the Soviet Union's development.

It was a characteristic of Stalin himself, and a peculiarity of the military leaders under Stalin as well, to show enthusiasm, excessive enthusiasm for and overassessment of the possible role of aviation, for example, or cavalry, artillery, or tank troops, and to lack understanding or willingness to understand that these technical

means and military might must, in general, be added to the system of political, economic, social, and other measures from which the overall potential of the state is formed.

Stalin yielded a second time when the United States threw a challenge at us after the war, and compensated for our peculiar shortfalls and weaknesses—and this was understandable after such a terrible war, particularly in the economic sphere—with a military orientation. This led to the fact that very often we were imitators in the development of our equipment. We attempted to catch up to the United States. To a certain degree we tried to adapt our military thinking to the military thinking that existed in the United States. And I am convinced that this is what is meant when the highest organs of our party declare that in the past we seriously miscalculated the political, diplomatic, and other possibilities for defending our security and averting war, and this is now obviously under review.

Now these points—a rejection of all extremes that are inadequate for the contemporary level of development, both of civilization and of military equipment, and even of the ecology—these demands are finding their consistent expression in the new Soviet thinking. And I think this is an important side of the matter, a very, very important side of the matter.

[Lobov] Well, it should probably be added here, it should be said that there were mistakes in our old doctrines, if I can put it that way, particularly of course in the military and technical side, particularly before World War II, before the Great Patriotic War. For example, we developed the theory of the beginning period of the war inadequately. We made definite errors because we believed the beginning period of the war would begin this way, but things turned out to be completely different. A second point should also be stressed, the fact that the role of defense, of defensive combat actions, was belittled too, to our great regret.

[Zorin] Yes, they used to say: Only on foreign territory, and only with minor losses.

[Lobov] Yes, in other words they planned to defend the motherland essentially only with offensive combat actions, and one can even add here that the theory of the defense of the state itself was not developed, and naturally we all know what this led to. Now, by properly analyzing, in detail, both the past and the present, we are taking all these points into consideration.

[Zorin] Now we are talking about overcoming the mistakes of the past and negative manifestation. In connection with this, I want to ask you a difficult question from our viewers' letters. It is known that since the time of President Eisenhower, who by the way was a five-star general occupying the Presidential post, the term military-industrial complex, an alliance of generals and heads of military corporations, has been in use in the United States. We, too, have both generals—please excuse me Vladimir Nikolayevich—and the leaders of military enterprises with their specific interests and ways of thinking. Now comrades ask, is it possible to talk about some form of Soviet military-industrial complex, and about the influence of this complex on the political course?

I understand that this question is not an easy one for you to answer, but nevertheless let us try to respond to it.

[Lobov] Yes, of course it is a difficult question, possibly for me as a military man, right. But I will try to answer it as I see it. Of course it is a real absurdity to talk about the existence of a military-industrial complex here in the Soviet Union. Why? Well, if we take the two systems, they have a vividly expressed class nature. We cannot escape the class essence of our two systems. If we look at things from this point of view, then a merging of the military leadership in the capitalist world with the capitalists themselves—the spokesmen of the interests of this capitalist state—exists, and the aim of the military-industrial complex is to extort superprofits through the arms race and through the establishment of the most modern weapons systems and equipment. This is the meaning of the military-industrial complex.

Now, this kind of complex does not exist here because the very essence of our state in itself predetermines that a complex of this kind simply cannot exist. Yes, we do produce arms naturally in our state, and they are produced in those quantities that are essential for the defense of our state. What are these arms for, and how are they produced, and at what expense? Naturally, our state allocates certain economic resources that are given to us and earmarked for the creation of these arms. They are not detrimental to the welfare of our Soviet people, but are for the defense of our Soviet people and their interests. This is how I understand it.

[Zorin] Valentin Mikhaylovich?

[Falin] I think if we were to view the question of the military-industrial complex in a strict and formal way, then certainly Mikhail Nikolayevich is correct. We do not have either the social groups or particular parties which could count on making a profit from an arms race or personal gain from a war. We never had anything like this, we have nothing like this now, and I am convinced that we shall never have it in the future. But the question is important, and the complexity of this question is determined by the statement that, at certain stages of development, we have overestimated the military capabilities and the need to invest the amount of effort, funds, and attention to insure our security primarily through military means, and underestimated the political, economic, diplomatic, and even informational, if you will, as well as other possibilities. If, in fact, we did underestimate these factors, the question arises: Who did the underestimating, and why? Specific people

underestimated these factors, people with selective hearing who, more often than not, paid greater attention to arguments of various people, including the military, and less often, and at times superficially, to the arguments of sociologists, economists, psychologists, and other experts, specialists, and politicians who argued that one thing cannot exist without the other, or that one is clearly in contradiction to the other. We are not so lucky as to be able to have our cake and eat it too, either in the military or civil sphere.

[Zorin] But Vladimir Nikolayevich has said that military expenditure is not detrimental, provided it is spent on security.

[Falin] Unquestionably, if one is talking about ensuring the security of the people against real and pressing threats, then I feel that our people, as experience has demonstrated, will give all they have to deter this threat and to repulse the attack.

[Zorin] You speak of sacrifices. Therefore, it is detrimental.

[Falin] Certainly. Vladimir Nikolayevich did not raise the question with this in mind, and did not imply this in his answer.

[Zorin, speaking to Lobov] You see, you have a defender.

[Lobov] In that case, I can develop my thoughts further. First, when we speak of the military-industrial complex we assume that it consists of three main parts. The first is the monopoly which manufactures the arms. This is the main component, that monopoly which manufactures weapons. It consists of a certain circle comprising private capital. The second also requires a mention. This involve representatives of the armed forces who are also involved in these monopolies engaged in manufacturing weapons. Otherwise there would not be a complex. Finally, the state administrative apparatus must also be somehow involved in this complex. It too receives something in turn from the military-industrial complex. So in the West, in the United States, such complexes exist. We do not have anything like this. Ours is a peoples' government. That is why we do not speak in terms of super profits, or what we want from an arms race. I say it again. We do manufacture weapons, but these are first and foremost for the use of our armies, which are there for the defense of the state, for the defense of the Soviet people. Speaking about prosperity. Certainly that which the Soviet people give for the production of arms, for the maintainance of the army, is reflected on the prosperity of the people. There is no denying this.

[Zorin] That is what I was leading to.

But this can be put in the following way. This is being done at the expense of the material interests of every citizen of our motherland. However, there is another side to the well-being of our people. The well-being of a person is not simply that he eats, drinks, and exists. There is also the aspect of a peaceful sky above his head. Perhaps the highest form of well-being for a Soviet person, for the Soviet people, is, in my opinion, peaceful skies.

[Falin] It is difficult to argue against this position, but this does not answer all the questions within the framework of today's discussion. We have inherited many unanswered questions. Within the framework of the search for new answers to new questions, arising in connection with a totally new situation existing in the world today, there is, in particular, this question to which the contemporary military are giving a simple affirmative answer. This applies, for example, in efforts, say, to stockpile certain types of weapons, or the readiness and willingness to have as many as the Americans have, and if possible a little more, or to aspire to have all the varieties of equipment that the United States and other Western countries have. According to today's point of view, this was not absolutely necessary, even when we were making those decisions, say in the seventies.

When we were making decisions somewhat earlier, and perhaps for a very long time, for far too long the shadow of the experiences of World War II fell over our military thinking. We were somewhat late in reaching the conclusions that were finally made in April 1985 and soon after 1985, particularly in the proposals for the elimination of nuclear weapons on a global scale, and other extraordinarily important initiatives made by the general secretary of our party, which brought about real improvements and agreements with the Americans. If, for example, we would have made similar proposals 10 years earlier, then I am convinced that today the world would be far more prosperous and the sky above the world's people, including the Soviet people, would have been even more peaceful.

[Zorin] I would like to continue this discussion with a question, once again addressed to both of you. Proceeding from what you have said, is it possible that in years gone by some significant opportunities for ensuring complete and true security for our country were missed—and by this I mean both military and other opportunities? Could you give us the military side of the matter, Vladimir Nikolayevich?

[Lobov] I wish to return briefly to the previous question.

[Zorin] You wish to finish the argument.

[Lobov] Yes, because it will lead to the question you just asked.

[Zorin] Go ahead.

[Lobov] Everything that was said here is true. If 10 years ago we would have actively conducted, or began conducting, work towards slowing the arms race in the world, then perhaps the returns would have been more apparent today. But I wish to say the following: We have

been speaking about the manifestation of stagnation. Stagnation manifested itself first of all in thought. Unfortunately, it seems that that manifestation of stagnation in thought allowed us to be led into this arms race. The price paid for victory in the Great Patriotic War was much too high. The price was very high. And this also influenced the political thinking, which included the thought that there ought to be more weapons, a larger army, and that one must have everything there is in order to guarantee the security of our Soviet people. And naturally, carried by inertia, this thinking reached the period of stagnation, when it was thought that by having a large armed force and a large amount of military equipment it was possible to reliably defend our motherland. But this is what in fact allowed us to be drawn into the arms race. In all likelihood, the fact that we are now undertaking our active policy in the area of peace and in the sphere of disarmament is the best policy. It will lead to great results, and it will naturally be reflected in the composition of the armed forces.

[Zorin] Valentin Mikhaylovich, what can you add to this?

[Falin] I think that if one is honest, first and foremost to oneself, and if one should see all that is required and not just that which one would like to see, then we should admit that we, the Soviet Union, are also to blame that many of the solutions to many of the questions have been drawn out for as long as they have. I will cite the following as an example. In 1963, when the USSR, the United States, and the United Kingdom were discussing the question of banning nuclear test explosions, it would have been possible to reach an agreement on a full and all-encompassing ban concerning these three powers. That is, this would also have included a ban on underground nuclear testing. What was the bone of contention? Kennedy, if my memory serves me well, proposed eight verifications per annum, while Khrushchev agreed to only three per annum. Thus, the differences between the three and the eight prevented consensus. Even if we would have accepted eight verifications per annum as Kennedy had demanded, I am convinced that today the situation of nuclear weapons in the world would have been qualitatively different, not to mention the quantitative aspect.

With reference to this, I think this would also be true if about 10 years—or at least 8 years—earlier we had put forward proposals similar to the present conditions for disarmament and security in Europe. We had such an opportunity. All the necessary prerequisites existed. If our initiative had followed then, we would at least have gained the attention and understanding of the West European states for our proposals. But we did not make use of this opportunity. We chose to act somewhat differently. The examples can be multiplied. In the Far East, for a long time, we followed what I would not describe as the most balanced or steady path regarding several states. This, too, led to serious consequences for us which we will have to remove. I do not like to drag out my answer, but I would say that as we change over to the new thinking, including new military thinking, there is room for improving ourselves.

[Zorin] Valentin Mikhaylovich, you just talked about new, including military, thinking. Vladimir Nikolayevich, is it possible to say that presently we are witnessing the beginning of not only new political thinking but also new military thinking?

[Lobov] We have already spoken about our military doctrine and have said that it has a political side as well as a military and technical side. This in itself predetermines the fact that the new political thinking naturally also influences the military and technical side, as well as us, the military, the implementors, the people who come into contact with the military and technical side of our military doctrine.

Certainly, the most important aspect of our doctrine, which I would like to emphasize once again, is to prevent war. Therefore, it appears that we, the military, are also required to work out a strategy and the tactics of averting war. And we are active in this.

[Zorin attempts to interrupt and fails]

[Lobov continues] This is one aspect. There is something else that needs to be emphasized. There is the image of the enemy. If you will permit me, I will mention it. In this area, too, we have a definite new way of thinking. We certainly see our enemies. This is natural. After all, they are our enemies. This is natural. But, we now see that somehow there is a need to deal with them. In this connection I would like to quote Abraham Lincoln. When he was asked whether he had enemies, he answered: Certainly I have. But we cannot see these enemies of yours, it was said. He said: What do you mean, you cannot see them? They are there, and there, and there. But you are not destroying them, his questioners said. He said: What do you mean, I am not destroying them? I am destroying them. But we cannot see the bodies of your enemies, his questioners said. He said: But I make them my friends.

Similarly, we the military should also abandon the image of an enemy and this, too, is a new form of thinking. I would say that much is being done in this direction. Take our military contacts. As you know, Army General Comrade Dmitriy Timofeyevich Yazov, USSR minister of defense, has on several occasions met with U.S. Secretary of Defense Carlucci. Marshall of the Soviet Union Sergey Fedorovich Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, also made an official visit to the United States. He met with Admiral Crowe, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff [Zorin prompts Lobov on Crowe's title]. As you see, we do have military contacts, but for these contacts to exist and for

them to be fruitful, naturally the new thinking is necessary. And the embryos of this thinking exist. In fact, not only the embryos of this new thinking, but the new thinking itself is developing.

[Falin] I think that there is another moment in the new Soviet military thinking which deserves attention. Today, on several occasions, we heard Vladimir Nikolayevich say that military doctrine expresses the will of the people, the general opinion of the people. I think that if we speak in terms of the recent past, then these words should be interpreted as something to be wished for. But on the whole, the participation of the people in the formation of military policy and military doctrine has been at best indirect. Today the issue is raised that military thinking is not a forbidden topic for discussion for a society that can directly influence this military thinking, these ideas, their formation, development, and analysis of the problems.

[Zorin] An example of this would be our discussion today.

[Falin] It is intended to sharply increase the responsibility of our legislative organs during the discussion of all facets of the state's military activities, in the affirmation of the budget, and all that is connected with this, as well as in the matter of military doctrines as such. This is part of the new thinking and, in my opinion, it is extraordinarily important to bring the premises and conclusions into conformity, when military doctrines will truly become an expression of the opinion of the majority of the people and the people themselves.

[Zorin] There is another group of questions in our mail. It deals with the thesis of reasonable sufficiency—a most important thesis proposed by our country's political and military leadership. In my opinion, this thesis is essentially revolutionary in character. However, I would like... [changes thought] ...Vladimir Nikolayevich, you answered the question asked by our viewers in their letters, on what the concept of reasonable sufficiency is. I would like to ask a further question, my own question: What can we use to measure reasonableness and sufficiency when we speak about guaranteeing our national security?

[Lobov] Well, when we speak of reasonable sufficiency—and there is also a concept of defensive sufficiency—of course, we cannot contemplate only one side, for example our Soviet Union and our armed forces: We invariably consider the opposite side as well. In other words, reason is the first and foremost point in questions of defense and defense sufficiency—of maintaining, training, and using the armed forces. Now we see an interesting thing occuring in the world, as the opposite side also begins to think in a new way. It also says that indeed, one cannot solve everything by armed means—cannot keep arming oneself all the time, but should undertake measures towards disarming as well. I think that, speaking of being reasonable, one can emphasize that the destruction of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, which is now under way, represents contact between the two opposite systems' reasoning, and this kind of reasoning cannot but be welcome.

Now, speaking of defensive sufficiency, one should say that defensive sufficiency is an element of our military doctrine—and our doctrine is based on this—that a proper consideration of the contemporary world situation and the character of the military threat is presumed primary. This is why our proposals, our side's proposals, presume that defensive sufficiency should be based on minimum defensive potential, not the maximum.

[Zorin] Vladimir Nikolayevich, does this mean that the present potential can be essentially reduced if we proceed from that which is unreasonable to that which is reasonable, and from that which is excessive to that which is sufficient?

[Lobov] It certainly can. Not only can it, but it must be. There is an enormous need for this.

[Zorin] I see. Valentin Mikhaylovich?

[Falin] I think that reasonable sufficiency has several dimensions. As a method of regulating questions and reaching specific agreements at talks, reasonable sufficiency means at least that we should search for an agreement at the minimum feasible level, and not aspire to the higher level that the other side has. Only in this way can we considerably speed the course of any talks and simplify the very process of reaching these agreements.

Second, this concept has two dimensions in time—a near goal and a distant goal. Lenin already formulated a distant goal: To make wars impossible, the material base for conducting war should be destroyed. The idea of general and total disarmament is derived from this. Of course, this goal is a distant one, but this is how we put the question today and this is expressed in the Warsaw Pact's new military doctrine: Material conditions in the sphere of arms must be created that would deprive any state of the possibility of conducting sudden offensive actions, that is, to commit aggression against another state. In essence, this is reasonable sufficiency in its specific and feasible manifestation. We are ready for this today. Not only have we proclaimed this, we have put this proposal on the table.

[Zorin] And nothing more than this?

[Falin] Nothing more than this. Third—and I think Mikhail Sergeyevich mentioned this for the first time in Reykjavik—the matter is that if the other side experiences certain difficulties, for internal or other reasons, and is not ready to accept our proposals but intends to continue an arms race we see as unnecessary and unreasonable, we should not imitate this side and become unreasonable ourselves. We should search for the most

economical and at the same time most efficient asynchronous and asymmetrical response. Today the possibility exists for us to do so, because our defensive safety factor is sufficient for us to reject the role of follower once and for all.

[Zorin] In concluding our discussion, I would like to ask you both a question that can be formulated the following way: The question is one of the asymmetry in strategic thinking, if we talk about the concepts that exist in Moscow on the one hand and in Washington on the other. We proclaimed a new military doctrine and are already acting in accordance with this new military doctrine. As for the other side, unfortunately, we have to say that there have not been adequate steps or adequate actions taken by the other side. A question arises in this connection: Are we not getting ahead of ourselves? Are we not too far ahead of the level of contemporary thinking? In other words, are we acting realistically or are we confusing what we want with reality, to the detriment of our own security? Vladimir Nikolayevich, how would you answer this question?

[Lobov] Are we getting ahead of ourselves or not?

[Zorin] Yes.

[Lobov] You were a little surprised when I said that the political side of our doctrine is offensive. I wish to reiterate and again confirm this: We should welcome the fact that our doctrine is offensive in questions of averting war. You are now saying that we may be getting ahead of events. I think not. We are not getting ahead of ourselves in our active political work in this direction, averting war. Rather, we are doing our most active work to avert war and for disarmament.

[Zorin] Valentin Mikhaylovich?

[Falin] This is what I would say: No water flows under a lying rock. On the road to a better world, however, there are not merely rocks, but mountains of arms. Someone should begin this work. We took this initiative upon ourselves. We are setting an example, demonstrating goodwill. We clearly defined the spheres where rapid progress is possible in the interest of all, not just one side. We proceed from the premise that security today can only be general. We repeatedly proved that we do not claim any privileges for ourselves in this process, and we do not seek unilateral gains. We are prepared to be equal among equals in everything and everywhere.

Being a realist, I think that American military thinking will go through several stages in its development. There may even be very serious aggravations. The latest U.S. naval doctrine is an example: It is extremely aggressive and clearly provocative, even by U.S. assessments. We should take it into consideration. We cannot ignore it. This is a threat, a challenge to us, and an obvious one at that. But this does not mean that we should again let someone lead us away from the general road of mankind's development. We—mankind, not just the Soviet Union—have no choice. Today we should deal with more topical problems than attempts to crush each other by military means. We should at least save the environment, because if we do not, the world will perish without a war.

This is the alternative. We—as a system, party, and society—have presented our categorical and unambiguous choice. We answered these challenges. Today we invite the other side to live up to the demands of the time.

[Zorin] Well, our time on the air has run out. Unfortunately, we did not discuss all questions and did not answer all the questions that were received. We shall return to the other questions later. Now it remains for me to thank you for participating in our discussion, and thank our television viewers for their attention. And so, until we meet again here in our Studio 9, thank you.

Yazov Interviewed by Bulgarian Army Daily

AU1410130088 Sofia BTA in English 1217 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Sofia, October 14 (BTA)—Army General Dmitriy Yazov, Soviet defence minister, backs up the idea of settling all international problems by political means.

In an interview for NARODNA ARMIYA he said: "The dynamic developments in the world, the radical change brought about in international relations, the growing interdependence between the different countries, the rapid advancement of science and technology, the development and stockpiling of weapons with unprecedented destructive force require absolute abandonment of the position-of-strength policy, the dangerous dogmas of 'nuclear restraint,' and necessitates the adoption of a new approach to questions of war and peace and a new political thinking."

Army General Dmitriy Yazov assessed the increasing role of political means in settling international problems as an objective and undoubtedly positive process. That they are being gradually established as a basic tool for settling international problems is also proved by the fact that practically the whole complex of negotiations held between the East and the West is a step forward from the deadlock. "Now it is the second year that we live in the conditions of the Stockholm understandings being in force. They are strictly observed by all socialist countries," Mr Dmitriy Yazov pointed out.

In short, the new political thinking, by laying stress on the responsible and constructive settlement of current international problems by political means, opens for mankind the possibility of deepening and strengthening the positive trends in the development of our world and make irreversible, the Soviet defence minister concluded. [sentence as received]

That is the task we set ourselves at the meetings with Mr Frank Carlucci, United States secretary of defence, said Army General Dmitriy Yazov, and expressed the opinion that, having in mind the complexity of the problems of our time and the difference of opinions as to which approach should be applied in finding solutions to them, such meetings are definitely useful. They help to clear each other's positions, to formulate more precisely all questions we are concerned about, to find mutually satisfactory solutions and, ultimately, they are instrumental in easing the tension and strengthening international security.

Army General Dmitriy Yazov, who paid here an official friendly visit from October 10 to October 12, pointed out that "the all-round relations between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union, with all their fraternal sincerity and genuine cordiality, are now becoming more and more open and are characterized by more concrete formulations and efficient treatment of key problems, including the unsettled ones".

Yazov Visits Endangered Georgian Monastery
PM1310123588 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 88 p 4

[Correspondent N. Mikeladze report: "For the Issue!"]

[Text] A color photo report in the issue of SOBESEDNIK which appeared in the kiosks yesterday is devoted to the fate of the ancient monastery in the Davidgaredzha complex, which has found itself in the zone of a military firing range. After it had been prepared for printing, we learned that USSR Defense Minister D.T. Yazov had visited the Davidgaredzha complex. The military leadership has adopted several decisions important for the protection of these monuments of Georgian culture. Yesterday a large group of journalists and representatives of the public drove out to the site to be familiarized with the measures taken. We will inform our readers of them in the very near future.

'Secret' Defense Ministry Journal Now on Sale
LD1510153888 Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—The heading "The 'Secret' Stamp Removed" starts the latest issue of VOENNO-ISTORICHESKY ZHURNAL (MILITARY-HISTORICAL JOURNAL) of the USSR Defence Ministry which was offered for sale for the first time here yesterday. Under this heading the journal starts printing a book by Colonel General Sandalov, which was stamped "secret" up to this time. In this well-documented work the author reveals reasons for the defeat of Soviet troops at the initial period of the Second World War. The newspaper MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA writes about this today.

The first issue of VOENNO-ISTORICHESKY ZHURNAL was put out in August 1939. The journal printed memoirs of prominent Soviet military leaders, fundamental articles on the history of the civil war, military art, the history of national liberation movements, revolutions and uprisings. Much space was devoted to comments on archive documents. This rich factual material was accessible only for a limited number of people. The publication which Muscovites saw on open sale at long last, is meant for the general readership. The new headings of the journal include "From Archives of the USSR Defence Ministry," "In Search of the Truth," "How It Was Like," "From Unpublished Manuscripts."

The newspaper writes that the line for declassifying hitherto secret documents will be continued. Materials to be published in the next few issues include Stalin's orders of the war years, analysis of the work of the State Defence Committee, a discussion on the initial period of the war against Nazi Germany.

The words on removing the "secret" stamp can be also seen in another today's newspaper. We mean declassification of the topographic map scale 1:200,000 whose publication for general sale was considered a crime up to this time. The newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA quotes in this connection the words by Viktor Yashchenko, head of the Chief Administration for Geodesy and Cartography. He writes that now the map can be used by every tourist. In future tourist maps with a scale of 1:50,000 and smaller will show all rivers, their underground sections, drying-up rivers, shoals, springs, waterfalls, areas of inundation of large rivers and lakes, glaciers with contour lines and altitude benchmarks, caves and other objects. According to Yashchenko, in 1989 the USSR plans to issue new general geographic and tourist maps of 249 titles.

Tanker Radio Operator Awarded Order of Red Star
PM1410091388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 6

[R. Ignatyev report: "Radio Operator Awarded Combat Order"]

[Text] Under a USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree of 10 October 1988 Mikhail Grigoryevich Novikov, chief radio operator on the Baltic Fleet tanker "Olekma," has been posthumously awarded the Red Star. This is to mark the courage and bravery he showed in the performance of his military duty.

News of the tragedy that occurred in the north Mits'iwa Channel only got through several hours later. The crew of the Soviet tanker "Olekma" no longer needed assistance....

The tanker had worked in the Persian Gulf almost 6 months. There are Soviet Navy ships in that region to guarantee the safe passage of Soviet merchant ships

through the sector. It was the "Olekma's" job to supply the naval fleet with water and fuel. The tanker cruised from one ship to another round the clock.

On 31 May 1988 the ship's crew was ordered to return to base.

Darkness fell swiftly. The tanker had its lights on and all signs of identification were visible, so everything was as it should have been. A special spotlight illuminated the flag of the USSR Navy Auxiliary Fleet, and the inscription indicating the port of registration (the city of Baltiysk) was also illuminated. The Soviet emblem was also clearly visible.

Suddenly, some high-speed launches appeared out of the darkness. They were traveling fast, without lights. After some time the unidentified vessels began to draw closer. It was 2345. Most of the "Olekma" crew members were resting. A sudden sharp burst of gunfire was heard. The alarm was sounded on the tanker....

The Soviet ship was in a hopeless situation, as it could not defend itself against the attack: Arms are not allowed to be carried by the auxiliary fleet. The only thing the captain could do was to turn on another light to show the launches that it was not a warship. The "Olekma" came under attack nevertheless.

It all happened very quickly. Those on board the tanker did not have time to get a proper look at the attacking launches before they veered off and disappeared. As a result of the shell attack the tanker was seriously holed and the refrigerator compartment and radio room were put out of action. Mikhail Grigoryevich Novikov, the ship's chief radio operator, died at his post.

That night he was on watch. The first shells exploded in the radio room. A fire broke out. By the time his comrades came to his assistance Novikov was dead. He had not even had time to radio out what was happening....

The crew of the "Olekma" spent almost 24 hours making the tanker sea-worthy again: They patched up the holes, repaired the instruments, and replaced the radio equipment. They still had to sail the Atlantic. This would take the best part of a month. Only after repairing the damage did they manage to make contact with the Fleet Command and report what had happened. The command immediately took measures to find the unidentified pirates.

The exact location of the attack has been established: The Red Sea, not far from Dahlak Island, which is off the Ethiopian coast. Unfortunately, they have had no success in ascertaining the identity of the launches that attacked the Soviet tanker.

"This is an extraordinary event in our experience," N. Zelenin, deputy chief of the USSR Navy Propaganda and Agitation Department, said. "I must say that the entire crew acted in an efficient, well-coordinated manner, without any panic. We have informed all subunits of the incident and again emphasized our readiness for anything unexpected."